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The world is in chaos... something remarkable has to come from his death'

Head's widow appeals for moral revival

By JOANNA BALE

THE widow of the murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence called yesterday for a public debate to work out how to rid society of violence and establish new moral codes, especially among young people.

Frances Lawrence said that in launching her campaign she would be carrying out her husband's wishes. This was something that Philip and I talked about long before he died. That we had got to a point where the whole world was in a state of chaos and something needed to be done.

"We talked about it endlessly. At his death I just knew that I couldn't leave this unremarked. He was a remarkable man and something remarkable had to come from his death as much as from his

Mrs Lawrence was speaking in an interview with The Times in which she told of the nightmare she had lived since 16-year-old Learco Chindamo stabbed her husband outside his London school last Decemyoung people like Chindamo given values and something to whape their lives, and her manifesto for a new morality will be published in The Times

on Monday. Mr Lawrence earnt a reputation as an inspirational teacher and headmaster and was credited with having

transformed the standards of St George's comprehensive school in Maida Vale in the two years he was there.

Mrs Lawrence said: "To me, Philip was a giant among men. He always wanted to challenge and I think he felt that perhaps young people today feel unchallenged and undervalued. It's only when you are challenged and therefore achieve something that life becomes worth living."

She now hopes to establish a forum for dehate after receiving more than 5,000 letters from people who have echoed her thoughts in wanting a better world for their children to grow up in.

She said her husband's death had brought home to many the ills of society and its downward spiral towards increasing violence and rampant materialism. But their family had already been concerned about the way children's lives were being blighted by violence. She said: "It was a 12-year-old girl stabbed in her classroom that really devastated Philip. The destruction of society is very obvious and we see it all the time in newspaper reports, but this incident really stood out."

Nikki Conroy was stabbed at Hallgarth School in Middlesbrough in 1994 by Stephen Wilkinson, a psychopath who burst into her classroom wearing combat gear and carrying a gun and two knives. He ordered people to kneel facing a wall and stabbed Nikki because she could not stop

Mrs Lawrence has had letters from Nikki's parents and from other victims of violence. She said: "It has really been overwhelming. Each one makes its own points and I would like to respond to all of them, but it would take me

"Instead, I would like people to start to debate in a very public way about what can be done. Education is obviously one of the central issues in this. I can't change what has happened. I can't bring Philip back. Our task now is to aim for growth, I don't pretend to have all the answers, but I think that something needs to be done before it is too late."

Children needed to be en-

couraged to think rather than to follow blindly. "Philip's killer was a leader of a Triad group, which is a very good example of what f mean by this. Not thinking for themselves which leads to horrenconsequences. The nation is engaged in a process of reduction of values and principles. Thinking almost seems to be out of the equation."

Sorrow for killer, page 3



Frances Lawrence in the garden of her home in Ealing, west London, yesterday. Photograph: Gill Allen

Catholic Church heads for political minefield

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Roman Catholic Church is about to plunge into a political minefield with an inprecedented 13,000-word document outlining the princi-

ples of its social teaching. The bishops in England and Wales want to explain the thinking behind the Church's teaching on social welfare workers' rights, education and the morality of the market place. Although the authors deny trying to tell Britain's five million Catholics how to vote in the general election, they are asking churchgoers to bear in mind the Church's teaching when they go to cast

The exercise will be viewed with interest by all the political parties, and perhaps with some concern by the Conser-vatives. Although the Catholic Church has been traditionally conservative in its outlook, its teaching has been more in tune with old-style Tory paternatism predating the present Government and Tony Blair's

kind of social democracy. . The idea of community is at the heart of the Church's in-struction and the philosophy of Mr Blair's New Labour. Were the document to be seen to be leaning towards Labour there would be an outcry within the Church as well as

non Good and the Catholic Church's Social Teaching, to be published on Monday, will outline the Church's teaching over the past 100 years. The bishops believe that Catholic social teaching and the moral principles and values it puts forward have never been Continued on page 2, col 5

Youth held after slab hits motorist

A 16-year-old youth was arrested last night after a motorist was critically injured when a 50lb concrete block thrown from a bridge over the M3 in Hampshire smashed through his windscreen and hit him on the head.

Simon Willmott, 22, of Bagshot, Surrey, was driving at 70 mph. He blacked out but managed to stop the car and was in intensive care at Frimley Park Hospital,

Henman victory

Tim Henman, of Britain, beat Wayne Ferreira, the South African ranked seventh in the world, to reach the semi-final of the Czech Indoor Tournament. He served powerfully and deep with ten aces and displayed a panoply of ground stokes Page 52 ground stokes...



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



Court battle to cut the cost of Top general sacked popular pills and potions

By Dominic Kennedy, social affairs correspondent

POPULAR over-the-counter medicines cheaper if the Office of Fair Trading succeeds in an attempt to outlaw price-fixing by drug companies.

John Bridgeman, the director general, is applying to a court to recommend the abolition of a 26-year-old agree-ment which sets a minimum price for 2,273 brands of vitamins, syrups, tablets. lozenges and ointments.

Supporters of retail price

maintenance say that a quarter of Britain's 10,000 neighbourhood pharmacies might close if supermarkets are allowed to sell brands such as Lemsip, Rennie and Nurofen more cheaply. But Mr Bridgeman accused them of scaremongering and of exagerating the number of chem-

Even pharmacists accepted

that an end to price-fixing could save consumers £180 million a year, he said. "Retailers who want to compete on price or offer special discounts to pensioners are unable to do so because they are forced by manufacturers and suppliers

to sell at a fixed price." The position of local chemists had changed greatly since 1970 when price-fixing was introduced: the number of community chemists was then declining, now it was stable. and they now relied more on prescriptions than on over-

the counter products. "I am convinced that it is time for the Restrictive Prac-

Panadol (24 pack) Lamsip (10 pack) flu strength Seven Seas Cod Liver Oil One a day (60) Ramie (48) Strepeil (24) Nurden (12) Anadin Extra (24)

tices Court to look at this again and decide whether RPM is in the public interest." A preliminary hearing is expected next spring, but a full hearing is unlikely before 1998.

The Office of Fair Trading began its review after Asda which helped to destroy the Net Book Agreement by cut-ting the price of hardbacks cut the cost of 82 vitamin and health supplements.

If the Restrictive Practices Court agrees to forbid price fixing, shoppers can expect to see the price of some brands halved. But the Community Pharmacy Action Group says it will fight "all the way".

RPM price E Asda own label

in Yeltsin purge

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

terday continued his purge of senior military figures when he removed Russia's highest ranking officer from his post. The Defence Ministry, said that General Mikhail Kolesnikov. Chief of the Russian General Staff and First Deputy Defence Minister, was re-lieved of his duties and assigned to the largely ceremonial job of chief of staff of

the Commonwealth of Independent States, a non-existent force. He will be replaced by General Viktor Samsonov, who was formerly responsible for cooperation with former Soviet republics.

Although Kremlin aides last night were at pains to dissociate the move from the dismissal of General Aleksandr Lebed, the former National Security Adviser, the timing was not coincidental. The

PRESIDENT YELTSIN yes- main reason for General Lebed's sacking was the growing fear in the Yeltsin administration that the demoralised and disgruntled military could rebel because of the disimegration of the armed forces due to lack of funding.

On Thursday the Nezavisimaya Gazeta pub-lished an open letter by officers serving at the General Staff, under General Kolesnikov's command, threatening to take action against Kremlin leaders if their salaries dating back to August-were not paid by October 25.

On the same day the deputy commander of the country's airborne forces was dismissed after criocising plans by the Ministry of Defence to reduce the number of paratroops in

Military unrest, pages 14, 15

Black Friday on the roads as holiday grinds into gear

By Russell Jenkins

THE RAC called yesterday Black Friday as Britain's motorway network suffered some of the worst congestion

Motorists were anxious to start the weekend early or get away at the beginning of the school half-term holidays, and by the evening rush hour up to half a million vehicles were clogging motorways and major trunk roads at speeds of under 30mph. Black Friday followed a warning show how congestion is likely to grow

from the RAC that the Government's own medium-term forecasts show that many of the built-up areas of Britain will, by 2015, suffer gridlock during working hours.

Britain was hit yesterday by

successive bands of driving rain sweeping across the country. Today will start of dry and bright but showers are lorecast for Scotland and the North The RAC released the Department of

Transport's own "stress" maps which

been described by the RAC as a nightmare vision of the future. By 2005, the Government's own forecast suggests, every major route out of London will be subject to severe congestion through most of the working day. Congestion will have extended to most of the Midlands and "key strategic routes to the North". By 2005 one third of the motorway and trunk. roads will suffer chronic congestion,

In financial terms, it is estimated

over the next raine years. They have that congestion costs the UK economy around £19 billion each year. Using the stress maps, the motoring organisation forecasts that costs will escalate disproportionately to around E40 billion within ten years.

It is estimated that motorists already spend five working days each year caught in traffic jams with a consequent knock-on effect on the economy. This is forecast to rise to two working

Forecast, page 26

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the RAC says.

GARDENING: WEEKEND8.9 HOME LIFE: WEEKENDIO, 11 TRAVEL: WEEKEND 15-23



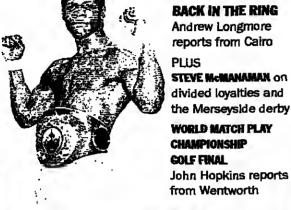


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BEST SELLING PREMIUM





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MOODY MICHAEL

By Gerry Agar,

the PR who

gave up on

Paula Yates

BACK IN THE RING Andrew Longmore reports from Cairo

STEVE MCMANAMAN OR divided loyalties and he Merseyside derby WORLD MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP **COLF FINAL**

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ren. He loved spending time

wonderful personality. I've never known anyone who had The couple, who lived in

first met as teenagers at a friend's party. Stephen was her first boyfriend and they "Marriage was the logical

garden at my parents' house and he asked me if I would like to marry him the next

£10,000 raised for woman in sperm case

Public rallies behind widow who wants baby

AND ALICE THOMSON

DIANE BLOOD, the widow who is fighting for the right to bear her late husband's baby, said yesterday she had been overwhelmed by donaoons and messages of support from the public.

An appeal for money towards Mrs Blood's legal costs raised more than £10,000 by last night with donadons from all over Great Britain and one from Switzerland. But Mrs Blood, 30, needs more than £100,000 to cover the costs of an appeal against a High Court ruling which bans her from using her husband Stephen's sperm to conceive by artificial insemination.

"I am getting tremendous support from the public and 1 want to thank everyone for the amazing response," Mrs Blood said. "I would just like people to help me because I am being stopped from having Stephen's baby by bureaucracy and red tape. Mr Blood, who died aged 30

in March last year from bacterial meningitis, would have made a wonderful father. she said. "He was brilliant with child-

with his nephews and our friends' children, playing foot-ball, giving piggyback rides and messing about. The reason that I fell in love with him was for his

so many friends. No one disliked him. He was the most open, friendly and loving per-son. He would have been a wonderful father." Worksop, Nottinghamshire,

went out together for nine years before getting married conclusion of our relationship. He proposed when were in the

"It was always our plan to



Diane Blood: overwhelmed by money for legal costs and messages of support for her

discussed it before we got married. We both agreed it lawfully been denied the use of her husband's sperm by the Human Fertility and Embry-ology Authority because he had not given his written consent before he died. Mrs was something we wanted. We wouldn't have formed a relationship if we thought differently about something so fundamental," she said. Blood was granted leave to The High Court ruled on appeal and the case will probably not be beard before

January next year. A powerful cross-bench alliance of Peers is considering introducing a backbench Bill which would allow widows such as Diane Blood to have children by their dead husbands. The Peers, led by fertility experts Lord Winston and Baroness Warnock. say that if Mrs Blood does not win her appeal then they want to act to change the "flawed" laws on human fertilisation. Lord Winston, who was

made a Labour Peer a year ago, said: "The consequences of the law are not only unjust but also morally wrong. Mrs Blood can use the sperm from a complete stranger but not her late husband."

Lord Winston, Professor of Fertility Studies at Westminster Hospital, yesterday said that Mrs Blood's case was by no means unique and it was unfair to prevent a husband and wife having a child after one spouse's death. He said: The most obvious way to change the Bill would be to add 'normally' before the words requiring written con-

Lord Winston said that he had been involved in at least one other recent case where a couple had been having fertility treatment and the husband bad then gone into a coma after an accident. Mrs Blood could legally receive Mr Blood's kidneys, liver or cornea but not the child he wanted her to bear. Ironically she could be legally inseminat-ed with sperm from a complete stranger, live or dead as long as there is written per-mission," Lord Winston said.

Joan Lester, the former Labour Cabinet minister, is prepared to help take the Bill through the Commons.

Peers are usually allowed a free vote on private members' bills but some rightwing Tory Peers have already made it known to the whips that they would not back any law that encouraged a child to be bought up in a one-parent family. Catholic Peers are also likely to feel strongly about any changes to a the Bill which most already oppose.

□ Donations can be made to The Stephen Blood Baby Appeal on 0121 643 4636.

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Loyalist terrorists keep their side of ceasefire

Loyalist terrorists yesterday told David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, that they would cootinue to support their ceasefire, despite the upsurge in IRA violence. But in their talks with him at the Maze Prison, Belfast, prisoners from the Ulster Defence Association and the Ulster Volnateer Force said that the Government must crack

In a separate attempt to maintaio Ulster's threatened search for peace, John Hume, leader of the SDLP, called on nationalists to cancel a protest against a contentious parade by 200 loyalists in Londooderry this morning.

A small amonot of Semtex, bomb-making equipment, firearms and ammonition were found during a police and army search near Hackballscross, Co Louth, oear the border with filters.

Soldier killed by IRA is cremated

Warrant Officer James Bradwell, who was killed in the Warrant Officer James Bradwell, who was killed in the IRA car bombings at Lisburn, Co Antrim. was given full military honours at his fnoeral at Sunderland Crematorium. His coffin draped in the Union Flag, was carried by members of his regiment, who had travelled from Germany. WO I Bradwell was married with three children.

Credit card spending hits record

Credit and debit card spending hit record levels last mouth, indicating that consumer confidence has returned, according to researchers. Consumers spent £7.3 billion with cards, a jump of more than 31 per ceot on September 1995, the Credit Card Research Groop said. Recent mooths have seen a flood of new cards being issued.

Writer challenges Bormann book

The writer Ian Sayer has taken up an offer by the literary ageots Curtis Brown of a £20,000 "reward" for anyone who could disprove the claim of John Ainsworth-Davis in his book Operation James Bond that the leading Nazi Martin Bormann was brought to Britain. Sayer said the book had 120 inaccuracies. Curtis Brown could not comment.

Teenager shot pastor with air rifle

A teenager who wonoded a Baptist pastor outside his church with an air rifle bought by mail order was placed under a 12-mooth supervision order at the Old Bailey. The .22 weapon would still be legal under proposed changes to the firearms laws. The judge lifted an order banning identification of Adam Hill, 16. of Peckham, south London.

Suicide man challenges publicity

A man whose suicide attempt was filmed on closed circuit television has won leave to seek a judicial review over a decision by Brentwood council. Essex, to release the film to Anglia TV and BBC1's Crime Beat. Geoffery Peck, 42. tried to cot his wrists in Brentwood High Street after learning that his girlfriend was seriously ill.

Tesco removes Hallowe'en display

Tesco has withdrawn a Hallowe'en display from its Dorchester store after a local Baptist couple claimed it was "grossly sinister". The display included devil masks, skulls, candles and an altar. A Tesco spokesman said: "We were really surprised ... considering it was all in the spirit of Hallowe'en, which is very popular with children."

Father jailed for crippling student

A father who attacked his daughter because he disapproved of a boyfriend was jailed for six years at Isleworth Crown Court, west London. Revinder Chera. 19, who was a business student at Glamorgan University, is now brain damaged and in a wheelchair. Jarnail Singh Chera, 44, of Hayes, denied intending to cause grievous bodily barm.

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Insurance boss cleared of sex bias

An insurance manager was cleared of bonoding a female consultant who claimed that she forced him to leave her job. An industrial tribunal ruled Stewart Calderwood, of Bingham. Nottinghamshire, had not sexually discriminated against Melanie Murphy, who said she had been driven to a nervous breakdown by his intimidation and bullying.

Dorrell move on children's homes

Inspectors are to be allowed into smaller residential homes caring for children, Stephen Dorrell annouoced yesterday. The Health Secretary is closing a loopbole in the law which exempted institutions with fewer than four children from the inspection regime. His announcement was made at the Association of Directors of Social Services' conference.

Dunblane parents may sue police

Duoblane parents may seek compensation from Central Scotland Police following Lord Cullen's damning criticism of the force and the subsequent resignation of a senior officer. Peter Watson, solicitor advocate representing all the families and the two sorviving teachers, coofirmed yesterday that he woold be advising his clients.



Monday-Thursday 8am - 8pm · Friday 8am - 9pm · Saturday 8am - 8pm · Sunday 10am - 4pm*.
to sale, Maxhandise sulyest to sealability: Not all products will be available at the following Homebase stores: St. Peters Street - Maidstone, Hyndburn Road - Accompton
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to Lane - South - Control Opening many way, Place call 1981: 300 (2016) for death of your season take. The sale - Successful which open them - Synt.

RC 'minefield'

Continued from page I more relevant to the condition of contemporary society." according to the Right Rev David Konstant, Bishop of Leeds and chairman of the working group responsible for

He is concerned to avoid "misrepresentations", he says. The Church has in the past been highly critical of the extremes of both socialism and capitalism and bishops are concerned that they are not seen as lending support to the Labour Party. While hardline Labour MPs have in the past tended to be atheists, that has changed over the past

decade. In a letter to the editors of all Catholic newspapers and journals, Bishop Konstant emphasises that the Church is not being party political. "You are no doubt aware that the Catholic bishops' conference has drawn up a statement outlining the principles of Catholic social teaching and applying them to contemporary society in the light of the forthcoming general election. This is the first venture of its kind, likely to attract considerable media interest," he says.

In an unusual attempt to forestall controversy, he continues: "I am confident that fair and comprehensive coverage of this statement in the Catholic press will help to offset any misinterpretations the statement may receive elsewhere." Bishop Konstant insists: "Our primary aim is to remind and inform Catholics of the Church's teaching in this area."

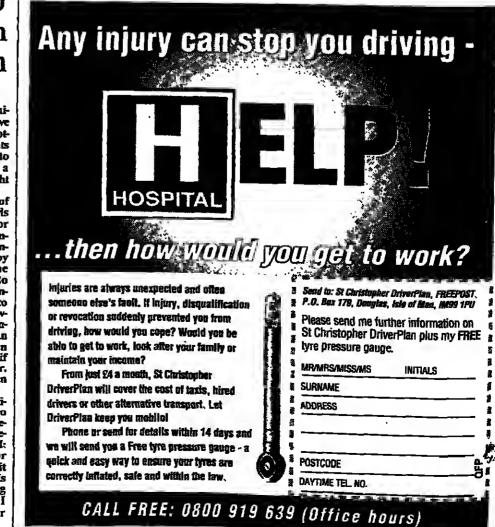
Bowls club turns down lottery cash

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE members of a predominantly male bowls club have turned down ES0,000 in lottery and council grants because they do not want to use the club's reserves for a new clubhouse which might attract more women.

A National Lottery grant of £52,000 to Stalybridge Bowls Club, near Manchester, for the renovation of its crum bling clobhouse was an-nounced by Sir Bobby Charlton io March after the club changed its rules to allow women as voting mem bers. The club was also to receive grants from a brew-ery and from Tameside countotalling more than £30,000, but would have been left with £33,000 to find if plans to provide a new bar, loonge and indoor green

were to be realised. After six months' indeci-sion, the club decided to go without the money. Its secre-tary, Erie Saville, bas resigned in disgust. He said: We have been working for this for two years and now it has all gone. The dubbouse is 100 years old and crumbling around members' ears. I cannot believe their decision."



Good ideas cost less at Homebase,

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'He not only destroyed my family, he destroyed his future. My heart goes out to him'

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Head's widow feels sorrow for killer



SURROUNDED by photo-graphs of her husband and four children, Philip Lawrence's widow spoke for the first time yesterday about the "nightmare" she feels that she has been living since his

Throughout the trial of her husband's killer, 16-year-old Learco Chindamo, Frances Lawrence maintained a dignified and composed presence at the back of the Old Bailey courtroom. Although the strain was revealed in an occasional haunted expression, her face betrayed little emotion, even when Chindamo was found guilty on Thursday of murder.

Mrs Lawrence said she had no hatred towards her husband's killer; instead she felt "overwhelming sadness" for him and his family. "Learco Chindamo killed my husband and, in doing so, he not only destroyed my family, he also destroyed his own future. My heart goes out to him and his family. I just feel overwhelmknown Philip.

Philip might have given time and showo him a better way to live. He might have shown him that the meaning of happiness doesn't lie in the glitzy amusement areades that he spent his time in.

"I felt a great sadness for him and his lack of values and the lack of anything that shaped his life. People say that some lives are beyond redemption, but I do not believe that If I did I think I would just feel like giving up completely. She said that the point at

which she felt most pity for Chindamo was when he was giving evidence. "When Learco was in the witness box, he described the minute details of his gang and how it worked. When he was talking about how he paid £3.60 to join, it just broke my heart that



has been living a nightmare since her husband's death. She talks to Joanna Bale about the impact of the murder upon her family

any child should find that the way to go forward. The fact that, as my husband was dying, he was playing pool made me feel

overwhelming sadness that he knew no more than that, that he thought that was the way to happiness, that he's never been taught or shown any-

As she spoke, her son Lucien, 9, wandered in and out of the room as if to check that his mother was all right. Soon after his father died last December, Lucien wrote to Father Christmas asking for his daddy back so that his mother and three sisters would stop crying. Mrs Lawrence said that she

had never tried to shield her

son from the awful reality of his father's murder. He was with her at St Mary's Hospital, in Paddington, when she was told that her husband had

"He and I were the first people to know that Philip had died. He asked me where on his body his daddy had been stabbed and I said, 'In his heart'. He let out an ethereal wail and at that moment I felt he had gone from being a child to an adult."

Unlike many nine-year olds, Lucien dislikes violent cartoons and playthings such as Power Rangers, preferring to ride his bike or play with his new black-and-white kitten. which he has called Mandela. Until this happened he had



which makes it particularly difficult to begin to tell him what it all means," Mrs Lawrence said. I have told him everything, though. Children suffer if they are not told everything straight away and only find out afterwards."

Although Lucien is so young, he has taken a keen interest in his mother's attitude that some good could come out of his father's death. She said: "Lucien said to me this morning, We can't change what's happened in the past, but we can change the future'. That comes from a child who even at nine has that kind of vision."

She said that many of her friends tried to protect her from the gruesome details of her husband's death by trying to persuade her not to attend the trial. "Philip's death is as important to me as his life. I wanted to know all about it. Many people tried to dissuade going to court, but it seemed to me that my place was there.

There was no decision to make in my mind about it I had beard all the details of Philip's death before the trial. I had a long talk with his surgeon and I also saw his body after he died.

"Even so, the whole thing has had the kind of consistency of a nightmare that I feel I will never wake up from. The trial was like watching a play, but at the same time being totally immersed in the characters and the plot.

Asked how she managed to retain her composure while death, she said: "Some feelings are too deep for tears."

locked away, but there was a man who has been stalking sense of justice. I knew the

police had the right man." After the verdict she telephoned her children and spoke to each one separately. I told them as it was, almost in the way that the jury foreman had read out the verdicts on the three charges that were faced by Chindamo and his co-defendant. I then came home and we talked about it a little more. It has been like a rite of passage for Mrs Lawrence is still hav-

ing to live with the spectre of a

her as she struggles to return to normality with her children. She said: "I am not terrified. It's just rather creepy and makes me feel uneasy. He has followed me to various places and I have seen him on several occasions. There have been no physical or verbal threats and the police are investigating."

She dismissed the incidents as unimportant compared to her husband's death. She added: "We are trying not to let it be a problem."

She plans to return next

term to teaching English at an independent school near her home in Eating, west London. "I love teaching and I don't want to let my pupils down. I went back to school a few weeks after Philip died because I felt that it was the

right thing to do. I hope that something can be done to stop society disintegrating the way it is. Both Philip and I discussed this before he died and I feel I should carry it on. He used to call us twin souls; we just knew that it was the right way to go about things.

inside

The Directory, our new 52-page entertainment guide:

The best seven-day guide to television, satellite and radio **PAGES 23-50**

Books: six pages of Weekend reading **PAGES 7-12**

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They it was

Food: the low-fat cookery course PAGES 3-6

What's on and where: our critics' guide to going out this week **PAGES 13-22**

listening to some of the evidence about her husband's She never doubted that Chindamo was the killer and said that she felt a sense of justice when the guilty verdict was delivered. There was no Philip Lawrence and his killer, Learco Chindamo: "Philip might have shown him a better way to live" Woman loses in Gascoigne saw strippagram case red after row By A STAFF REPORTER A WOMAN executive who and shouted, took off his PAUL GASCOIGNE yesterclaimed to have suffered postunderwear and lifted Ms coigne's lawyer and agent day blamed his violent argutraumatic stress disorder after

colleagues at work arranged a male stripper on her birthday has lost her claim for unfair dismissal.

Gail Steele, 44, said she was shocked to have lost her claim against the optical care company Optika and was considering taking the case 10 appeal. She is already bringing a claim in the High Court next year for £320,000 damages, alleging wrongful dis-missal, assauti and false imprisonment by the stripper.

At the hearing earlier this year at Woburn Place industrial tribunal, central London, a psychiatrist said that Ms Steele had suffered emotional trauma similar lo that suffered by the victims of rape or bomb blasts. The stripper arrived on her 43rd birthday and presended to be a job applicant. When Ms Steele the earned £60,000 as the July senior woman director with the company - sat down, he leaned over and handcuffed her wrists to the desk.

She said he produced a truncheon and baby oil and. as the all-male group jeered

Steele over his shoulder with her head dangling in his lap. She was dismissed later for

gross misconduct after becoming openly hostile to the managing director of the firm in Harrow, north London. Other staff at the company said she had laughed at the

prank and joined in the fun, helping to remove the strip-per's shirt and rubbing baby oil into his chest. One said she had called him a "big boy" and asked for his telephone number.

Ms Steele, of West Kensington, London, a married mother of two, said: "I am shocked and disgusted by the tribunal's decision that being subjected to a naked strippagram at work in front of business colleagues and clients, does not amount to discrimination." It had been a humiliating and stressful ordeal.

The stripper. Earl Thomas. insisted last night that Ms Steele had enjoyed his display. The married father of three said: "Why did she never complain at the time? She didn't complain until weeks after, when she was sacked."

ment with his wife Sheryl for his performance on the foothis performance on the tour-ball pitch during Rangers' clash with Ajax, when he was sent off for kicking another

In an oblique reference that appeared to confirm reports that they had had a fight, the England and Rang-ers midfield star said he had taken the "memory of Sun-day night" no to the pitch with him oo Wednesday night.
It has been alleged that

Gascoigne attacked his wife during ao argument while they were staying at the Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire. Pictures of Mrs Gascoigne, with a bruised face, arm in a sling and bandaged hand, appeared in the Daily Mirror on Thursday.

Yesterday, Gascoigne, 29, returned alone to his home nutside Glasgow, after training all day. It was not clear whether Mrs Gascoigne, 31, was also there. The recently married couple were said to have met on Thursday night, to try to salvage their fiveyear relationship Yesterday, Mel Stein, Gas-

did not deny the newspaper allegations that a violent assault had taken place but rejected suggestions that the player should be dropped from the England squad fur his behaviour. Mr Stein said: What goes on behind closed doors between a married couple has nothing to do with the England manager. We all have our faults, we all have arguments with nor wives."

Mr Stein added that Gascoigne had previously apologised publicly after an incident involving Sheryl.

"He went to one of the Sunday newspapers and said: I know I shouldn't have done this'. Yno have got to be a big man to do that in front of millions of people."

But Tom Finney, the for-

mer England star, said Gas-coigne should act his age and urged him to follow the good example of past players. Mr Finney. 74, said: "Paul Gascoigne has never had a stable life, he has always been with his mates. He has got to realise now that he is a fully grown person."



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you'll be glad to know we've no plans to do one or the other anytime soon.

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College head blames enemies for degree row

Errors grow as principal qualifies his past life

IN NEW YORK ANO PAUL WILKINSON

THE principal of a Durham University college admitted last night that he did not hold three of the degrees listed under his name. The Times has also discovered that other aspects of his background in the United States are

inaccurate. In his Who's Who entry, the American-born Rev Dr Duane Wade-Hampton Arnold, 43. principal of St Chad's, claims to be a member of the New York Athletic Club, a well-regarded establishment with attractive premises near Central Park and a prosperous, well-connected membership. A clerk in the secretary's office yesterday could find no record of him belonging to the club, Who's Who also listed the First Church, Detroit, where it

said he worked from 1985-87.

The episcopal (Anglican) dioc-

it had no church of that name

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san office in Detroit said that

ARNOLD, Rev. Duams Wade-Hampton, PhD: Principal, Sc Clad's College, University of Durham, since 1994; § 5 Aug. 1953; c of Wale Hampton Annold and Louise Elezabeth (are Hensley); as 1980, junes Lee Direc. Edw. Univ. of New York (SA 1979); Construite Univ. (RA 1989); Philodelplan Univ. (MAD 1987); Construite Univ. (Dip Theol 1983); Sc Charle Coll., Durhams (PhD 1989); STa (Lambeth Dip. in Theol.) 1989, Manister, Fast Church, Detroit Michigan. 1985–87; Procentor; § Paul's Cabedral, Detroit, 1987; Chaplain, Wayne State Univ. Detroit, 1988–87; Custate, St Thomas Charch, Piffs Ave. NY, 1991–93. Tonce, Sc Chod's Coll., Durham, 1985–88; Lecturer: in Religious Studies, Univ. of Detroin, 1985–88; to Charde Hanton, Anhand Seminary, Ohao, 1987–91. ChSQ 1991. Governor's Ayand for Distinguished Service. Machagan, 1998. Officer, Order of Poloma Resurear (Poland), 1987; Legton of Merit (USA), 1993. Publication: A Lutheras Reader, 1982. The Way, the Truth and the Liti; 1982. Placetic, A Call or Convention, 1990; Paryers of the Manyan, 1991; The Endy Episcopal Career of Administra of Merit (Pol.) Paryers of the Manyan, 1991; The Endy Episcopal Career of Administra of Western Civilianosti, 1995; counts to attorious learned Ji. Ramatistra's thooting, revening college, Palais and charters. John The Principal's Longe, St Chad's College, Durham DH J SRH. T. (1991–374-3367, Chdt. Caledonian, Sc John's Hones; New York Athletic (New York).

The entry in Who's Who: inaccurate details

a mistake," said a spokesman Cambridge University diplo-

for the diocese. Dr Arnold said yesterday that clerical errors had resulted in similar-sounding, but different qualifications and institutions, being printed in his Who's Who reference. An MA from Concordia University in Montreal in 1981 was in reality a degree from the Concordia theological college at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and a 1979 BA from the highly regarded State University of New York was a BA from the less well-known University of on its books. "Perhaps there is the State of New York. A

Every Saturday in

this newspaper

ma in theology was a misinterpretation of a diploma in religious studies awarded by the university's local examinations syndicate.

Dr Arnold said he had no idea where a Master of Divinity degree, apparently award-ed in 1982 by Philadelphia University, had come from. There is no such institution. Dr Arnold, who holds a PhD from Durham in 1989, said: "Many of the listings in various biographical registers are not correct. I must assume they have occurred through

mation was being put into the system." He had not checked them closely because "they were not of a deep or abiding significance for me", he said. I was more concerned that they had got my father's name as Hampton, when it was Herman." When the errors were drawn to his attention, he corrected them. He said he was "very sad-

dened" by publicity given to the inaccuracies. "I can only assume that it is to do with certain people who are unhappy at the changes I have made in this college. It seems there are certain elements who would like to bring me down and embarrass me. 1 know 1 have enemies within the university. If you are an agent for change you will create

"Unfortunately, when you try to improve things, you find that some people are part of the problem. All I will say is that when I was appointed I was the fifth principal in six years. There were a number of

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Dr Arnold: "I shall be scrupulous about looking through every item in future"

things in the college which concerned me, academic stan-dards had fallen and there was alcohol abuse and vandalism among the students. That has now changed."

He had also managed to reduce the college's debts by 55

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firmed yesterday that it was per cent and would have them repaid seven years earlier than planned. My work on the buildings is not aggrandisement, I am simply trying to keep the rain out.

"One thing I have learnt is that I shall be absolutely scrupulous about looking through every single item of my background in future." The case will be discussed at a meeting next month of the Council of the University.

Dr Arnold, whose wife Janet is the university's Director of Development, has refused to resign over the issue, but some of the university's senior staff privately believe that he should go. The 280 students of St Chad's recently passed three motions censuring his management style and expressing no confidence.

One academic, who said that the university had warned staff not to speak publicly on the issue, said: "It is one big ego trip. He is the only college principal to have had a special installation service in Durham Cathedral when he took up his appointment. At the dinner afterwards, we had to sit and listen to congratulatory telegrams from figures like Bob Dole. We wonder now whether that

was fiction too. There have been fears among students about his attitude and his extreme response to misdemeanours or people unwilling to give a blanket support to his ideas. There is a growing body of

opinion that he should go." He also complained about the money Dr Arnold was spending on refurbishments to the listed Georgian buildings of the college, close to the Norman cathedral, some of it done without reference to the planning authority. "He has altered one room to make a grander entrance, lining it with marble, like the approach to the President's Oval

Durham City Council con- renew the permit."

about to write to the college over two cases of alterations done without listed-building Dr Vernon Armitage, a

fellow Durham principal at St Hild and St Bede's College, said: "The students have demonstrated great restraint and dignity over two very difficult years. If the integrity of anv part of the university is threatened, then the integrity of the whole university is threatened. We want the whole matter dealt with speedily and responsibly."

A spokesman for the university said: "The present situation is a complex matter to which a lot of ome is being devoted. The university has a responsibility to its students who are members of St Chad's College and we wish to condude this matter with minimum impact on their lives and studies.

St Chad's is an independent college run by a Church of England foundation. A statement issued on behalf of the Rt Rev Michael Henshall, the Bishop of Warrington, the chairman of the governors who retires later this month said: "In collaboration with the university authorities, he is investigating the substance and source of the allegations against the principal. In due course the college council will form a view and act

appropriately." Details of the US-born doctor's curriculum vitae are being studied by the Department of Employment which issued his work permit in 1994 when he took up his appointment. A department spokesman said: "We base decisions on whether to grant work permits on the information which employers supply to us If we are subsequently supplied with information which means we would not normally have granted a work permit. we can revoke or decide not to

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Driver injured as vandals hurl concrete on motorway

OCTOBER 19 1996

A MOTORIST who was critically injured by a concrete block hurled from a motorway bridge was fighting for his life last night. Simon Willmott was driving at

70mph when the 50lb block smashed through his windscreen. hit him on the head and crushed his chest. He managed to stop the car before he blacked out.

Police said a youth, or gang of youths, had thrown the block off the bridge over the M3 near Odiham, Hampshire. The crime was being treated as attempted murder. Officers believe the same people could have been responsible for a number of similar incidents in recent weeks when missiles have been hurled off the bridge into the

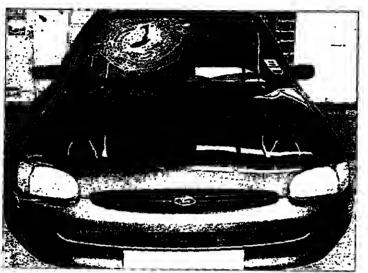
Mr Willmott, 22. of Bagshot. Surrey, was unconscious in inten-sive care at Frimley Park Hospital, Camberley. His condition was described as critical but stable and his parents Alan and Sandra Willmott and his girlfriend Laura were at his bedside.

His sister Julie Brooksbank, 25, said she regarded those responsible for such a wanton act as mindless and sick, "It is just your worst nightmure and it is so needless. Nobody in any right mind would do that sort of thing." She said that the family were hoping that his youth would aid his recovery. "He is young and strong

and very determined. His mother said: "He has got awful injuries to his chest, one of



The bridge over the M3 from which the concrete was hurled



The 50lb block crashed through the windscreen of the car

are problems with his heart. We have been told the next 48 hours are

going to be critical." Superintendent Richard Stowe said that hurling a concrete block from a bridge showed a complete disregard for human life. "It was his lungs has collapsed and there unterly reckless and crass stupidity.

There could have been children in the vehicle, it was totally random. It defies belief that people should want to kill someone that they have never met, never seen and do not

even know. Mr Willmott was travelling an account executive for the cable company Nynex, at around 8pm in moderately heavy traffic when the concrete smashed through his windscreen. The Ift by bin block had been hurled from a height of 22

The car stopped around 320 yards from the bridge. The fact that he was not killed is down to the skill of his driving," said Superintendent Slowe. "Somehow he managed to bring the car to a halt in the fast lane.

"God knows how he did it because by the time the first person got to the car he was unconscious, so it was a tremendous piece of driving to bring the car under control. He didn't skid and he

didn't hit the crash barrier."
He appealed to anybody who had seen people on the bridge to come forward. "Whoever threw the concrete off can't have known who il would have hit. Il was pitch black and they would have had no idea where it was going."

A driver from Essex reported a similiar incident yesterday which happened last week. He was passing under the same bridge when the bonnet of his car was struck by a missile. He escaped injury and did not tell police until he heard that it had happened again with serious consequences. Detective Chief Inspector John James said it appeared there had been a number

similar incidents at the bridge. The motorway was closed for nine hours to allow police to study the scene and search for evidence. It remained closed during the rush



Victim Simon Willmott, who has head and chest injuries after being hit at 70mph

hour yesterday morning, reopen-

ing at loam. Mrs Brooksbank, of Hove, Sussex, said the family was devastated by the crime. What they did was sick, beyond comprehension. 1 hope they catch them and charge them with attempted murder because that's what they did -

tried to murder him." Mr Willmott said: "Our son could lose his life because of their stupidity."

Detectives later revealed that a person, thought to be a juvenile, had been arrested and was helping police with their inquiries. In 1984 taxi driver David Wilkie was killed while driving miner

David Williams to work during the miners' strike, Russell Shankland and Dean Hancock hurled a con-crete block off a road bridge which hit the car, killing Mr Wilkie, They were convicted of murder but it was reduced to manslaughter on appeal

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Public school pupils call for head's reinstatement

By Russell Jenkins

PUPILS at Cheltenham College campaigned yesterday for governors to reinstate their headmaster. Peter Wilkes, 55, has been forced to resign after disappointing examination

Pupils at the independent school in Gloucestershire organised posters and petiroom sit-ins and walkouts. One poster says: "Peter Wilkes - We Say He Stays" and another declares: "If he goes, we go - Peter Wilkes, the pupils' choice".

Mr Wilkes's resignation after seven years was announced last week by the pilege council, which said that a new head was needed to carry the school into the next century. Mr Wilkes, who is to remain until the end of the academic year, refused to speak about his departure.

A-level scores fell this year

while those of rival schools

increased. Mr Wilkes's wife, Alice, who is a teacher, has said publicly that her husband has been the victim of examination league tables. But she said the tables concealed the fact that 20 of the college's pupils gained Oxbridge places this year. Forty-six per cent of GCSE results were A or A* were the third best in Chelten-

ham's history, she said. Her husband announced this year that the 600-pupil school, founded in 1841 and with fees for boarders of £12,000 a year, was to become co-educational.

Air Commodore David Atherton, the school secretary, said of the pupils' campaign: "It is a genuine expression of affection for him and general dismay that he and the council have agreed that he should leave at the end of this year."

Mark Hicks-Beach, a school parent of Great Witcombe,

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Gloucestershire, said of the resignation: "There is considerable fury among the parents. We feel insulted by the explanatory letter we were sent and we're hoping to take further action."

A fourth-former said that a petition was going round the school and that most pupils sixth-former said: "We are all shocked and upset. He is a really nice bloke. I have been to several independent schools and he is the headmaster."

A sixth-former in his final year said: "He has brought the college into the 20th century with his decision to go co-ed and Improve the sports facilities."

Another parent said that the pupils were threatening sit-ins and walkouts because they thought that the headmaster could hardly punish them for trying to get him reinstated.

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Police can arrest after two claims of harassment

Stalkers face five years' jail in legal crackdown

HOME CORRESPONDENT

STALKERS will face jail terms of up to five years under proposals announced by the Government yesterday.

Two new criminal offences would be created and people would be liable to arrest and prosecution after frightening or harassing their victims just twice. Under both offences it would not be necessary for the prosecution to prove that the stalker intended to frighten or distress the victim. It would have to prove only that the activities were intentional or that a reasonable person would realise that they frightened, harassed, alarmed or distressed the victim.

The police would have the power to search a suspected stalker's property, without a warrant, for evidence such as letters, photographs and videotapes. Victims of racial harassment and nuisance neighbours would also benefit from the proposed measures.

Ministers intend that the proposals should form the basis of a Private Member's Bill and hope that they will become law by early next year.

The measures are a considerable toughening of original Home Office plans, published three months ago, David Maclean, a junior Home Office minister, said: "We believe that this proposed Bill will form a formidable weapon against stalkers and finally provide victims with hope that, in the future, they will be able to live their lives free of intimidation and fear."

The proposals involve both the civil and criminal law. with prison sentences and fines for those convicted of stalking. The first new criminal offence involves the use of



Tracey Sant, whose stalker was jailed for three years. She welcomed the proposals

than one occasion which puts civil injunction would operate a person in fear of violence. It would carry a five-year prison sentence or an unlimited fine.

A second offence would involve the use of words or behaviour on more than one occasion "which would cause the victim to be harassed, alarmed or distressed". It would carry a maximum prison sentence of six months and/or a £5,000 fine. A new

where words or behaviour are used on more than one occasion which cause a victim to be distressed or alarmed. Anyone breaching the order would be committing a criminal offence carrying a maximum prison sentence of five years and an unlimited fine.

The Government has acted after a series of high-profile cases. Last month Dennis Chambers, 37, was acquitted of causing grievous bodily harm to Margaret Bent, a 30year-old café manager, who claimed that he took over her life by following her and bombarding her with telephone calls.

Also last month. Clarence Morris, 37, was found guilty of causing actual bodily harm to Perry Southall, 20. a denial nurse who was subjected to a campaign of infimidation that involved 200 incidents in eight months. In March, Anthony Burstow, 30, a Falklands veteran, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for causing grievous bodily harm to Tracey Sant. 28. during three years of harassment, Ms Sani 🍪 said yesterday: "I am happy to hear that finally victims are going tu have a light at the end of the tunnel. Nobody understands what being stalked is like unless they go through it. 1 was told just to ignore it and he would go away. But they

don't go away. Most victims of stalkers are women, A recent study of 155 cases found that 144 victims were female and ten were male. The other case involved

an entire family.

The study identified five categories of stalker. In 40 of the cases the stalker was a neighbour or casual friend, 30 involved a formerly infimate relationship. 25 a former domestic partner and 24 a work colleague. In 32 cases the stalker was unknown to the

In each case the initial trigger was either the ending of a relationship or an innocent and platonic encounter.
There was no evidence the any of the victims could be considered to have brought the stalking upon themselves.

Leading article, page 23

Curb could hit journalists' inquiries

BY CAROL MIDGLEY

JOURNALISTS, debt collectors and Jehovah's Witnesses could all fall foul of the legislation, it was claimed yesterday.

Concern centres on the second of the two new criminal offences. A maximum penalty of six months' jail, a £5,000 fine. or both, could be applied to anyone using words or behavlour, on more than one occasion, which would cause the victim to be harassed, alarmed or distressed, either intentionally or in circumstances where a reasonable person would have realised this would be the effect".

The Home Office admitted that this could lead to the arrest of journalists involved in investigating the activities of people who did not want the attention'. The proposals include a defence of acting reasonably and necessarily in pursuit of business, trade or profession.

However, Santha Rasaiah, of the Newspaper Society, said that if a person

subjected to unwanted, but legitimate. media attention sent a circular to media companies instructing them not to contact or photograph them, or to desist from an investigation, that would establish grounds for legal action, Ignoring the instruction could make a journalist liable to immediate arrest. "Although we can quite understand the target, our concern is that this should not be open to exploitation and manipulation to centre on an unintended target."

Strikes put 30,000 jobs at risk, says **Post Office**

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

ANOTHER suspension of the Royal Mail's monopoly because of further strikes could

put 30,000 jobs at risk, the Post Office has told MPs. The warning came in a memo to MPs on the Trade and Industry Select Committee which has been leaked as the Communication Workers' Union ballots its members on whether to accept an offer previously rejected by the union executive or lo resume industrial action.

The Post Office said the

forecast was based on the loss of market share to competitors who offered services for business users in the Midlands during the last one-month suspension of the monopoly. The Government has said it will suspend the monopoly for three months if there are further strikes. A spokesman for the Post Office conceded that 30,000 was the estimated figure for job losses if the monopoly was broken for more than three months. The union dismissed the Post Office's leaked warning as a

Duchess of York loses her flag day

By ROBIN YOUNG

A COUNCIL which raised the Union Jack to hooour the Duchess of York's 37th birthday hauled it down again after Buckingham Palace pointed out that she was no looger royal.

The flag flew from the

Ivybridge, Devon, town half for four hours oo Tuesday because the Duchess's name was oo a Royal British Legion list of royals who de-served recognition. The council checked with the Palace wheo some Legion mem-

bers complained that she was unsuitable to be honoured.
The town clerk, Donald Helliogs, said: "We always put up the flag for official occasioos. We felt that she was still the Duchess of York so she was still entitled to the flag. However, we had a couple of complaints so in the end we rang Buckingham Palace. They told us we could fly the flag, but did not have to. We will be checking with the British Legion whether they suggest we fly the flag for the Duchess's birthday in

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Latest republican film hands IRA another transatlantic victory on propaganda front

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to the Royal Family are in-

creasingly abusive, percep-tions of British society are out

of date and the British (specifi-

cally. English) character is

insulted in a way that would

not. in this city so finely

attuned to defamation, be

tolerated of other cultures. The

level of abuse seems higher than that of the mindless anti-

Americanism in London in the

Ken Maginnis, a Unionist

MP, said recently that "the

IRA has lost the shooting war

and now they are going all-out

to win the propaganda war". Long Island saw that war's

Some Mother's Son is one of

four films about the Northern

irish Troubles in the Hamp-

tons Festival, Film festival

organisers like controversy.

Western front, in the raw.

Seventies and Eighties.

Big Apple takes a bite out of the beastly British

From Quentin Letts in east hampton, long island

A SECOND salvo of Irish republican hero-making struck the United States on Wednesday night in genteel Long Island, where a cinematic saga about the H-block hunger strikers opened the Hamptons Film Festival to applause and Brit-bashing. The film arrived a week after the opening of Hollywood's Michoel Collins.

OCTOBER 19 1496

Some Mother's Son, which tells one side of the story of Bobby Sands and his fellow prisoners, was more subtle than the second-phase booby trap bomb the IRA exploded last week in Lisburn. Co Antrim, but the damage it could inflict on British interests may be greater. The Film Festival, whose patrons include the director Steven Spielberg and the actor Roy Scheider, was happy to oblige a film which even its director Terry George, a former repub-lican prisoner, recognises as being biased.

During the screening, audience members thrilled to the whirl of Irish dance music as IRA gunmen attacked British soldiers. They tut-tutted when



Pataki: compared famine to Holocaust



Maginnis: spoke of a propaganda war

British characters said that terrorists were murderers, not prisoners of war. When 1981 lootage of an unyielding Margaret Thatcher was used, a person behind me exhaled loudly to express disapproval. When Provo supporters verbally attacked a pacifist Mother Superior, there came

sniggers.
The film — an award-winner at the Edinburgh Fesrival - dwells on the foulsmelling conditions in Maze Prison during the Eighties' dirty protest. In the East Hampton picture house, the reek was of Arpège, Guerlain - and a dash of prejudice.

Sponsors for the opening night of the festival included Evian, American Express, The New York Times and the once British-owned car company Jaguar. At the end of the screening, the Calvin Kleinclad bourgeoisie of East Hampton, a cocoon of wealth two hours' drive from New York city, discussed the film. Four 50-something women, prosperous in appearance, at-

tacked all things British. "Those bloody British," said one, spitting out the Angli-cism. "I do hate them a lot," agreed another, loudly, "And to think it happened just a few years ago. God, I hate Thatcher."

Julienne Scanlon, a voluntary worker of Hungarian descent from Sag Harbour, showed no embarrassment about her anti-Britishness. The truth will out," she said. I hated Thatcher and I hate Major." Earlier, before she heard my own English accent, she had attacked "the way they speak, the way they act -I hate them".

The release of Some Mother's Son, and Michael Collins, about the early IRA, coincides with a discernible rise in anti-British sentiment in New York. Last week the state pared British officialdom's behaviour during the Irish potato famine to Nazi conduct during the Holocaust. An opinion-forming weekly, the New York Observer, published a vitriolic article which complained about the handful of magazine editors who have moved from London to Manhattan. It said: "This city's cultural elite is infested with Anglo imports on a mission to drive down the American IQ and thus exact revenge for the Empire's disintegration into worldwide influence of Icelandic proportions."

New York media references



Helen Mirren as Kathleen Quigley, a mother comforting her republican son dying of starvation during a hunger strike in the Maze prison

no matter the price in terms of balance or the sensitivity of timing over political developments. "I had no doubts about releasing this film," said Ken Tabachnick, the festival's executive director. Ed Burke, one

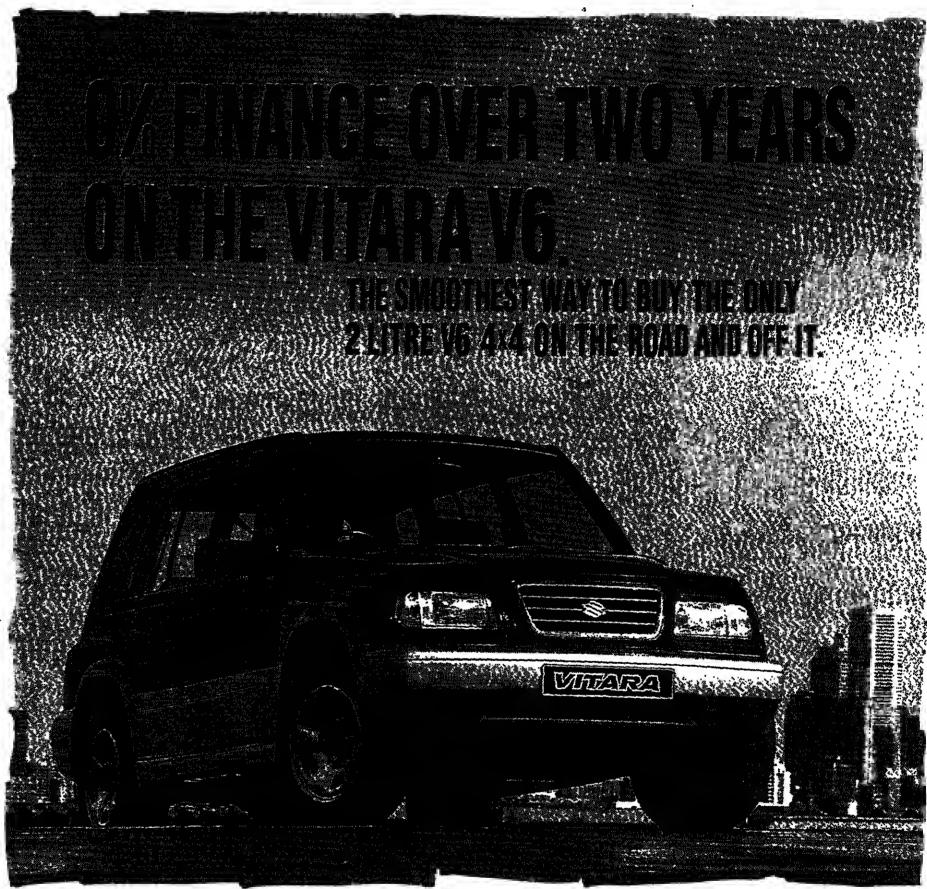
of the film's producers, pointed out that "the only group that does any killing in the film is the IRA" and the movie's British star, the left-ofcentre Helen Mirren, said that it was about "the appalling

dilemmas" that faced the hunger strikers' mothers. The film is certainly an adrost piece of work and is careful to carry some balance, but in gut it is pro-IRA. If it was about the mothers and not their gun-

toring sons, should it not have been titled Some Son's Mother?

As he took plaudits from the expensively cushioned Hamptons swells. Belfast-born Terry George said of his film: "Ir's only one side of the story." support in America might finally have been on the slide. it is the only side of the Troubles that most Americans

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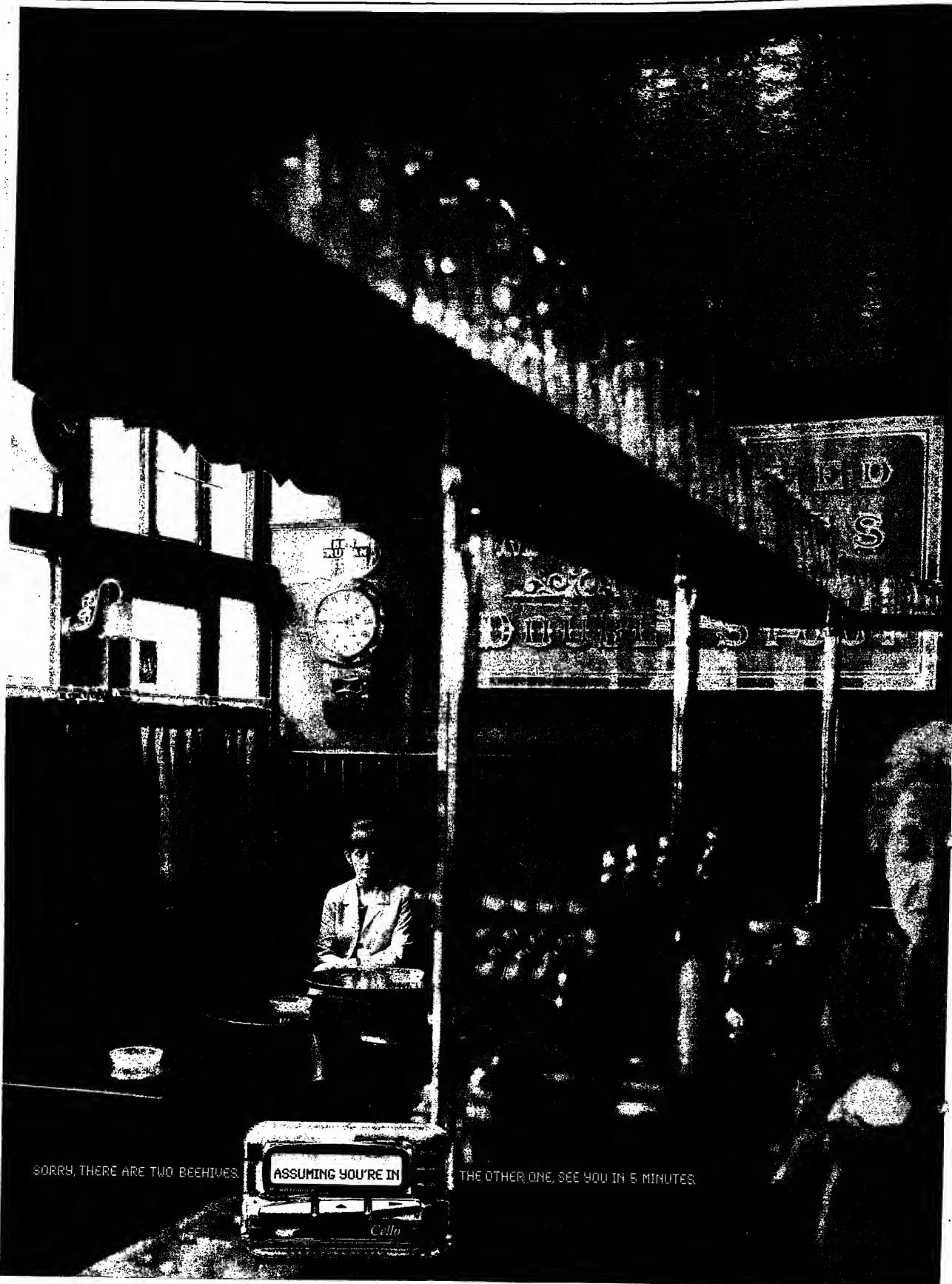
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Her last launch was a liner but Her Majesty was as happy to make a small cruiser go with a big splash

Queen pushes the boat out for an East End boy

IT was not the usual royal launching. Despite its illustri-ous-sounding name, the ous-sounding name, the Millennium of London was not heading for life on the ocean waves. It will go linle further than a mile along the

OCTOBER 19 1996

Bui cui-glass accents and estuary English cohabited happily yesterday when the Queen launched a passenger boat for an illiterate East End millionaire. It was the smallest vessel ever blessed by the sovereign.

The boat's owner, Gary Beckwith, a former market trader who cannot read or write, said: greatest day of my life. She "This was the knew we were all nervous and made ir very easy for us. She was very gracious.

The staunch royalist from Leyton, east London, hit upon the idea of asking the Queen to launch his 11th boat while it was being built at a Welsh shipyard. However, his "difficulty with words" prevented



The last Royal launch was the Oriana, above, which is eight times bigger than the Millennium

him from writing to Buckingham Palace.

Paul Wilson, his friend and fellow director of City Cruises. put down in writing what he wanted to say and a reply came back from Buckingham Palace saying the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh were Edinburgh were delighted to accept invitation.

The Queen's launch, in April 1995, was P&O's giani cruiser MV Oriana. 260 metres long. weighing 69,153 tonnes, and carrying about 2,000 passen-

gers across the seas. The gers across the seas. The Millennium is 30.7 metres long, 85 tonnes, and will carry up to 400 passengers along the river between the Tower and Westminster. After the launching at a pier

below the Tower, Mr Beckwith, 44, said he revered the Queen "from a personal and business point of view". He added: "Let's face it. most visitors to London come because of the Royal Family. I would like to thank her and the Duke of Edinburgh for coming. They are welcome

was a boy, I always wanted to crowning of an unusual busi-

After a childhood of poverty and illiteracy. Mr Beckwith worked variously as an underwear salesman, milkman, bookmaker's clerk and croupier before launching his pleasure-boat company, based at a floating office in south-east London. He knows the operating area well - he fished the same stretch of the Thames as

His business is now said to be worth £5 million and he has a yellow Rolls-Royce. Among his customers are many of London's Asian community, who hire his boats to scatter the ashes of the departed on the water.

The Queen's other previous launches include the warships HMS Invincible, and HMS heffield - sunk during the Falklands War - plus the QE2, the Royal Yachi Britonnia and the nuclear submarine HMS Dreadnought.



Cannon is latest shot at leaves on line

BY NICK NUTTALL

A NEW weapon against the railways most celebrated excuse for a delay. leaves on the line, is undergoing tests between Salisbury and Exeter, Staff at Railtrack have

kitted out a small locomotive with an advanced water cannon so powerful that its jet can cut through wood. Engineers hope the leaf-blasting loco, which is being tested at night, will end their annual embarrassment of delayed trains as wheels skare and slip on rails coated in crushed,

Along with the other legendary excuse, "the wrong kind of snow". leaves on the line cost more than £10 million a year in damaged trains and rails.

Bev Whitty of Railtrack said yesterday: "Leaves have long been the butt of railway jokes. But they affect trains' ability to accelerate and, in some cases, stop safely. The trial aims to change all that."

Water cannon have been tried before in the long and sorry saga of tackling leaves on the line. But the previous anempt, a few years ago, failed because the pressure of the jets was too weak and the system operate at only 5 mph

Other ideas studied by British Rail in the past include putting rails in water iroughs at notorious leal blackspots; stunting trees by suppressing leaf formation: special leaf fences; using a Swedish scrubber train with wire brushes: and "aerodynamic leaf deflectors". A "plasma torch treatment train". which tried to burn leaves

and mulch, was tested in Kent but abandoned. The new French-built cannon on trial delivers a blast of 1,000 bar and the Irain can whip along at 35mph. Early findings indicate that the pressure is enough to lift the most stuhborn leaves. Officials believe the system will be superior to the ageing fleet of special trains that spray a sticky goo onto rails to reduce the risk of wheel

During the age of steam, sparks from the boiler would often ignite fallen leaves and nearby trees alleviating the threat. Cutting back trees is often unpopular among hnuseholders whuse homes overlook the line.

ENEWS INSTRUCTOR

Court puts stop to melody that lingered on

A woman whose obsessive playing of Unchained Melody made her oeighbours lives a misery was ordered to leave her council home in Camden. oorth London. Joso Lowe, 34, cootinued to hold drunken parties into the early hours of the morning in spite of several police warnings. A neighbour told London Coonty Court: "That hlasted song was played again and again until two or three in the morning."

Judge halts strike A four-day strike by 1,200 staff at Newcastic City Health NHS Trust was called off after managers obtained a High Court injunction. Uniwas due to start on Mooday. after the breakdown of pay ine strike, which

Cranberries off

The Craoberries rock groop have called off a 37-date Europeao tour because the singer. Dolores O'Riordan, is ill. Miss O'Riordan, 23, apolngised to fans for cancelling because of a leg injury, complicated by the stress of travelling aod performing.

Hammer attack

Anthony Gomm. 27, who blinded a girl aged 16 in ooe eye hy hurling a hammer through a car window, was jailed for three years. Gomm. who admitted causing a daoger to road users, told Oxford Crown Court that he had intended to hit the car.

Nice surprise

A man has just discovered he won £340,000 last Saturday. Briao Greene, 40, a botel chef from Birmingham, places a £1 each-way accumulator bet every Saturday. He thought he had backed a horse that lost, but in fact he bad backed

Escapes inquiry Sir Anthony Grant, the MP for Cambridgeshire South-West, has called for an inqui-

ry after a murderer and another violent patient escaped from Kneesworth House psychiatric hospital in Cambridgesbire, scene of five escapes in two mooths.

1 op scorers

The bat used by Jack Hobbs to score his 126th century and beat W.G. Grace's record in 1925 has been sold for £10,350, four times the estimate. The buyer also paid £1,500 for the bat with which Wally Hammood made his first county century.

LEAVING TOO MUCH MONEY IN ORDINARY SAVINGS ACCOUNT DOES LITTLE FOR SAVER.

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said we would never succeed. Fortuoately, they've had to eat their words.

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the judge." So we took up the challenge and set out to create a really special personal pension. But we soon made a remarkable discovery - the Chancellor had got there first!

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roca Hindsight, UK Growth & Income Sector and Giles and Fixed Interest Sector. Figures calculated on a monthly basis from Launch to 30.9.96, on an offer to bid price basis with ner income reinvested. **Source: The Exchange, 11.10.96.

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"You be

Hartlepool is Britain's top new attraction in £1 billion boom year for tourism

Town that discovered the quay to fortune

By Harvey Elliott, travel correspondent

AN old north-east dockyard which found fresh life as a museum was named yesterday as the nation's most successful new tourist attraction, in a year when Britain's search for days out broke all records.

The Museum of Hartlepool was visited by 210,000 people in its first 12 months — twice the population of the town itself. Across the country, the amount spent by visitors to Britain's total of 5,818 tourist attractions went up last year by 6 per cent to a record £1.1 billion.

Entry to the £4 million Museum of Hartlepool is free, but the local authority says that the whole town benefits from the income provided by tourists. The museum was built on an old quayside area of the town and now houses a collection of fishing boats and a paddle steamer.

"The success is phenomenal," museum officer Gary
Topp said. "At least 1 per cent

For an area which has no history of tourism, this shows what can be done when an area is regenerated."

area is regenerated."

Figures published today by the four national tourist boards range from the 7.3 million who went to Blackpool Pleasure Beach to the 12,365 who visited a National Trust semi-detached house in Worksop, Nottinghamshire. More than 80 new attractions opened during 1995.

A tour of the Granada TV studios, where Coronation Street is made, has now replaced Stonehenge in the top 20 attractions which visitors must pay to enter.

Tim Bartlett, chief executive of the English Tourist Board. said that better marketing, improved facilities and the good weather encouraged more visits last year: "There is now an awareness of how important tourism can be."

The average adult admission charge in 1995 was £2.42.
Overseas visitors accounted for 18 per of all visits and 32



Visitors on the dockside at Hartlepool and, below, signs of the changing times at the £4 million museum

per cent of the total number were children. An estimated 89,000 people are employed at the attractions, together with a further 56,000 volunteers.

The report is based on returns from what the tourist boards officially regard as "attractions" — places which people would be prepared to pay to visit even if in fact they were not charged to do so.

The top 20 attractions which charged for admission in 1995 were: 1: Alton Towers, Staffordshire 2,707,000; 2. Madame Tussauds, London 2,703,283; 3. Tower of London 2,536,680; 4. Chessington

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World of Adventures
1,770,000; 5. Science Museum,
London 1,556,368; 6. St Paul's
Cathedral 1,500,000; 7. Natural History Museum, London
1,442,591; 8. Windsor Castle
1,212,305; 9. Blackpool Tower
1,205,000; 10. Thorpe Park,
Surrey 1,166,000; 11. Kew GarBath

dens 1,060,000; 12. Windermere Lake Cruises 1,054,414; 13. London Zoo 1,042,701; 14. Edinburgh Castle 1,037,788; 15. Drayton Manor Park. Tamworth, Staffs 1,000,000; 16. Royal Academy, London 881,000; 17. Roman Baths, Bath 872,915, 18. Warwick

Castle 803,000; 19. Chester Zoo 760,580; 20. Granada Studios 750,000.

The top ten free attractions were: 1. Blackpool Pleasure Beach 7,300,000; 2. British Museum 5,745,866; 3. National Gallery, London 4,469,019; 4. Strathclyde Coumry Park, Motherwell 4,150,000; 5. Palace Pier, Brighton 3,800,000; 6. Funland and Laserbowl, London 2,500,000; 7. Eastbourne Pier 2,300,000; 8. Westminster Abbey 2,245,000; 9. Pleasure Beach, Great Yarmouth 2,000,000; 10. York Minster 2,000,000.

Oron

Vale of tears that leads to redemption

John Haldane

LIFE is often hard. People act badly, hopes are dashed, tragedies occur. Gaudy though they may be, the television simulacra for evil pale by comparison with the thing itself, precisely because they are not real. A bleeding nose is more disturbing than a studio killing. When blood is drawn tife flows away, and every day much blood and many lives are lost.

and many lives are lost.

Each sunrise heralds a procession of betrayals, cruelties and disappointments. Parents struggle with the fact of their children's handicaps; friends and spouses contione longestablished patterns of deceit; the sick and the old worry about living and about dying. We stumble and stagger on towards

What does religion have to say about these facts? So far as the Roman Catholic tradition is concerned, it emphasises the sacrifice of Calvary and affirms its continuing redemptive function. In the offertory of the Mass the participants transcend earthly space and time and enter into a sacred dimension in which Christ's sacrifice stands before God as an atonement for human failing. That is one mystery; here is a second, reaffirmed in the experience of the great spiritual writers: God permits us to conjoin our suffering to that of Christ as part of

to that of Christ as part of his redemptive act.

That cannot mean that Christ's passion is of itself insufficient; rather it is as if by courtesy of the main parties

by courtesy of the main parties one becomes associated with a wonderful gift and thereby is a co-recipient of gratitude. Wittgenstein, the greatest philosopher of this century, once wrote: "The only life that is happy is

the life that can renounce the amenities of the world." His point is not that one should as a matter of fact, or of principle, renounce comfort; but that one should be disposed to equanimity in its absence.

equanimity in its absence.

However, although he was baptised a Catholic and received instruction in the faith, Wittgenstein's "spirituality" is more stoical than Christian. His

recommendation of renunciation belongs in the tradition of philosophies of detachmeot familiar from the Meditations of Marcus Aurelius and from the teachings of the Buddha.

Wittgeostein says:

Wittgeostein says:

"Learn to be content."

Christ teaches us to pray to the Father. "Thy will be done... but deliver us from evil." The evil in question is not suffering but sin. The Pater Noster ends not with a request to be spared discomfort and death but with a plea to be freed from the influence of moral corruption.

The difference between the spirituality of stoicism and of Christianity flows from the latter's doctrines of creation, fall and redemption. God made the world in which we suffer, He did not cause that suffering, yet He permits it. Part of the explanation is that suffering is an occasion for spiritual growth.

that suffering is an occasion for spiritual growth. Catholic doctrine does more than identify this world as a "vale of tears": it insists that God entered into the condition of His creation and thus suffered with and on behalf of it. This is the ultimate demonstration of the justice of God: that He elects to endure whatever pain his creatures may suffer and cause.

In his work of spiritual direction, The Journey of the Soul to God, St Bonaventure writes: "Divine aid is at hand for all who seek it with a truly humble and devout heart, by sighing for

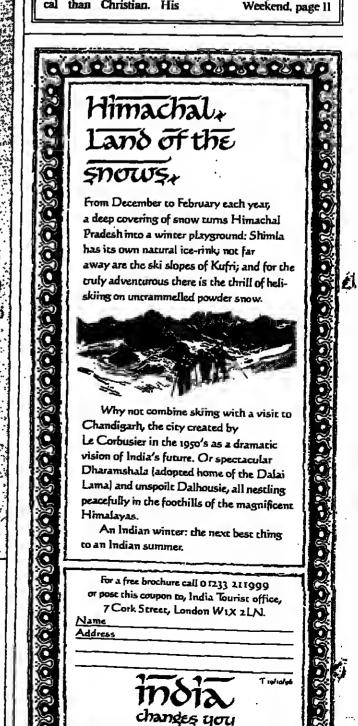
it in this vale of tears by fervent prayer." The teaching of the great spiritual writers is constant: those who live in the presence of Christ will die with God and those who die with God will live forever. We can enter into the divine presence

divine presence by prayer and the sacrifice of the Mass, but a tangible symbol of that presence is a crucifix. I pray that when I die one will be on my person, if not in my hand.

□ John Haldane is Professor of Philosophy in the University of St Andrews.

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FIXED FOR FIVE YEARS

Wet weekend forecast for Brighton as internal storms threaten to erode Goldsmith's European beachhead

Santer rebuffs Sir James over call for debate

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

JACQUES SANTER yesterday brushed off Sir James Goldsmith's challenge to de-bate with him Britain's place in Europe and suggested that the financier put his case in the European Parliament

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"As President of the European Commission, I am not at the beck and call of billionaire Goldsmith," M Santer said in a written statement. "Sir James is an eminent member of the directly elected European Parliament. This is the best forum for a democratic debate on European quesrions," he said.

He noted that Sir James, who, as an MEP for France, has one of the poorest attendance records at the Strasbourg assembly, had failed to take part in a debate on the state of the European Union last month. "He has another good opportunity next week when the European Parliament will discuss the political programme for 1997. I suggest he makes good use of this."

Sir James financed and was elected as an MEP for the Europe of Nations group in the 1994 European elections. The group, which includes Philippe de Villiers, a nationalist candidate in last year's French presidential election, is commined to the anti-Maastricht cause, The financier issued his

challenge to a live television debate in his latest full-page newspaper advertisement for the Referendum Party yesterday. He was responding to an attack by the Commission on an earlier advertisement which claimed that Britain was really governed by the 20 European Commissioners in

The Commission ridiculed the claim as showing ignorance of the way the EU worked. EU laws are enacted by the council of member governments, not by the Commission, it pointed out.

A spokesman for M Santer added yesterday: "If Mr Goldsmith thinks that the Commission has too much power, it is the kind of remark that should be made in the European Parliament."

Sir Leon Brinan, the senior British EU Commissioner, said yesterday that it would be "plain daft" for Britain to exclude itself from monetary union now and throw away the right to take part in decisions for setting up the single currency. In a speech in Leeds, he attacked Tory Eurosceptics for renewing their demands to rule out British entry.
The case for leaving the

question open and being taken seriously at the negotiating table has become stronger



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Sir James Goldsmith arriving in Brighton yesterday for his party conference

Disharmony as key players abandon one-man band

By ALICE THOMSON AND PHILIP WEBSTER

DESERTIONS and embarrassing admissions were the hitches encouniered by the Referendum Party as it prepared last night for its inaugural conference.

Sir James Goldsmith, whose party is demanding a referendum on Britain's role in the European Union, had hoped to parade defectors from the Tory party at today's gathering in Brighton. But last night one of his recruits, the former Tory MP Tim Brinton "went home" to the Conservatives and four others were rumoured to be ready to jump ship today to the rival UK Independence Party. As John Major dismissed

the new party as a "fringe organisation" that would not get many votes, Lord McAlpine of West Green, the former Tory treasurer, and Sir Alan Walters, Lady Thatcher's former economic adviser, admined that voting for Sir James might help Labour to win seats at the general

To make matters worse, the opening news conference on the Sussex coast last night was marred by charges that journalists who had been crinical of the party had been barred. Four more potential defec-

tors from the Referendum Party have held talks with Alan Sked, the UK Independence Party's leader. Three are candidates in Lancashire, Norfolk and Worcestershire. One is a regional organiser.

Referendum Party officials who arrived yesterday morning in a wet Brighton played down the threat of defections and said they were nothing compared with the 10,000 new members the party had attracted this week. · Mr Brinton, 66, said he was

"glad and relieved" to be out. "In 1994 many people of my age and stage were thoroughly fed up with the Tories. Sir James was very attractive because he gave British people a choice. But now it is increasingly clear that the only way we can get a referendum and a proper decision on Europe is by keeping John Major in and Tony Blair out. So I am back,"

Mr Sked's party will hold a rally in Brighton's Old Ship Hotel, and hope to announce their new recruits this afternoon. Mr Sked said that the four members he had talked to were angry at the "shoddy" way they had been treated by the party.
They told me that Sir

James was a one-man band and a megalomaniac. They are not allowed to expres their own views and anyone who is not famous is treated like dirt. They definitely felt they didn't belong to the right social class to be accepted by him," Mr Sked said.

The Referendum Party's biggest catch, Lord McAlpine, frankly admitted that it could help Labour candidates whose stance is seen as more pro-European than that of the Conservatives -- to win seats at the election. Asked on Granada Talk TV yesterday if this made him nervous of the tactic, Lord McAlpine replied: "I am not scared of it. I actually think it is going to

happen. I think John Major and his Cabinet should be scared of it and I think they should actually announce there is going to be a referendum."

Sir Alan Walters also hinted that the party could let Labour into power. He said: "If that did happen, it would be a Labour Government with a slim majority and looking over its shoulder all the

> Michael Gove. Magazine, page 19

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*Major admits size of deficit is a 'blot on the horizon'

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR admitted yes- modest reductions in the levels year's spending contingency terday that the Government's high borrowing was a "blot" on the economic horizon, the clearest pointer so far that he accepts substantial tax cuts will be impossible to achieve in the November Budget.

acknowledgement that the state of government debt was "a problem" follows an even bleaker private assessment by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, at Thursday's Cabinet meeting. As Mr Clarke called his Treasury team together for weekend talks at Dorneywood, his official country residence, it emerged that he had warned Cabinet colleagues that his options were severely circumscribed both by the size of the deficit and the demands

on spending budgets. With ministers anxious to avoid pre-election rows over cuts, the Chancellor is understood to believe that only

of public spending planned a year ago can be contemplated. That will disappoint the Tory Right, which has been pressing for heavy cuts to fund a pre-election tax honanza.

The Dorneywood gathering expected to concl is probably the most that Mr Clarke will be able to afford to knock off income tax. He bas told colleagues that he cannot take risks with the financial allocations to schools and the health service in the run-up to

Amid indications that discussions within the Cabinet's EDX spending committee have become tense and difficult, Mr Clarke's warning to the Cabinet during a general discussion about the economy was said to have been firm. The BSE crisis had had a big impact on his room for manoeuvre, he said. It has already taken El billion off this

reserve and will take at least another £1 billion next year. Lower tax revenues have meant that Mr Clarke's hopes of cutting the budget deficit this year have not been realised. The deficit in the first six was £19.8 billion, after removing privatisation proceeds, compared with £20.1 billion

Although Mr Major delivered an optimistic message about the overall state of the economy during talks with businessmen yesterday, he made plain that he would not take any short-term risks that might fuel a revival of

inflation He said that inflation was "as much under lock and key as I can ever remember it". But he then added: "The only economic blot on the horizon is the size of the fiscal deficit. That is a problem."

It takes a special kind of insurance company to rise to

the challenge of the special needs of disabled drivers. So how did Motability, the charity that supplies cars to the disabled, choose who to cover all 250,000 of their vehicles (the largest fleet contract in Europe), not to mention their own very special requirements?

They needed an insurance company who had highly sophisticated telecom technology. But also people who could deal with the special problems of disabled drivers in a sympathetic way over the phone. Which was far less straightforward.

The way the local workforce had adapted to dealing direct gave us the confidence to look at

opportunities such as Motability."

Telecommunications technology? That was easy. Merseyside has just about the most advanced system in Europe, and with the telecom-trained staff to go with it.

But it was the staff of the Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance that tipped the balance. Not just their skills, but their attitude.

Every staff member on the Motability project went on a disability awareness course (which included negotiating Liverpool City Centre in a wheelchair!) to give them the right level of understanding when talking directly on the phone to a disabled claimant, co-ordinating things like garage repairs and emergency transport.

"For Motability, fully comprehensi meant more than just policy cover it meant handling the special needs of disabled drivers. Our Merseyside staff rose to that challenge."

Adaptability and enthusiasm have been the watchwords of Merseyside for a generation. The clerical skills developed by companies like Royal & Sun Alliance insurance and Littlewoods 20 years ago are now the telephone skills of today's generation using state of the art equipment.

And look at some of the other companies investing on Merseyside- Kodak, Ford, Barclays and oil and gas exploration company, BHP.

Of course they're here for the technology. Of course they're here for the low operational costs, site availability, grants and assistance, training and two world class Universities

But in the end what makes Merseyside truly unique is the element that swayed Motability. The premium difference was the people.

WHATHEL



Experience the Magic, Discover the Fun Live the Adventure... LANDAU TAYLOR THOMAS NEUWIRTH FRENCH RHYS JONES Adventures 7 of SHOWING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

A'pool of talent

General loathed by corrupt elite believes military is best place to build a new patriotism

Yeltsin's gravest error paves way for people's hero

By Geoffrey Hosking

AT FIRST SIGHT the dismissal of Aleksandr Lebed looks like just another twist in the seemingly endless factional intrigues which rend the Kremlin. This time much more is at stake: the whole nature of Russian politics in the post-Soviet era. To understand the significance of what is going on, one needs to think back not just to the Soviet era, but even before.

The isars used to base their ideology on three cardinal principles: Orthodoxy, autocracy and nationality. In his recent autobiography, General Lebed put forward his own holy Russian trinity in a slightly different form: Orthodoxy, nationality, the army.

The difference is significant: General Lebed is a blunt man, alienated from the whole political elite in Russia and loathed by them. He learnt most of what he knows about life in the army, and considers it a better school of both nation-hood and leadership than conventional politics,

General Lebed represents a new kind of Russian narionalism, and probably one better COMMENTARY

suited to the new era than that of his opponents. Historically speaking, Russia, both in its tsarist and Soviet forms, was a huge and diverse empire ruled by multi-ethnic, patron-client hierarchies. Russians were to be found at all layers in these hierarchies, often at the very lowest, especially in the non-Russian regions.

They were the peons and day labourers of empire as well as its rulers. The result was that ethnic solidarity was surprisingly weak among Russians. When "their" empire collapsed in 1991, they mostly did not react by seizing weapons and taking to the streets, as the French did in Algeria. Instead they emigrated to Russia or settled down to uneasy co-operation with their new masters.

The one exception was Moldova. There, in 1992. Russians by armed force carved out for themselves an autonomous territory — the Transdnestr republic — where Russian rather than Romanian continued to be the official language. Significant-

ly, the leader of the Russian army in Moldova then, and the man who took the initiative, was none other than General Lebed. He was determined to save the men under his command and the Russians living on the territory from the humiliations of "foreign" rule.

But he would enter no deals with the political leaders of the territory he had rescued, Russian though they mostly were: indeed, he brusquely repudiated them when he discovered they were up to the same clannish and corrupt intrigues as their predecessors.

General Lebed is a politi-

cian who likes to appeal directly to the Russian people. Personally honest, he keeps clear of the networks of patrons and clients who ran the old Soviet Union and who still call the shots in the new Russia. That is why he has lost the latest bout of infighting.

It is also why he may well win the war. He is immensely popular in Russia. among people of all social classes, including many intellectuals, who would normally steer well clear of generals. They sense that he is the man to cut



Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister, talks to a general as Igor Rodionov, the Defence Minister, listens at a meeting yesterday

through the unceasing feuding and corruption.

His popularity was rein-

forced by his success in signing a peace settlement with the Chechen rebels this summer — however shaky that may prove to be. For the Russian people are no longer imperialist in the sense of being ready to send their sons to be maimed or killed in colonial wars. That was one reason for the collapse of the Soviet Union, and it continues to be true now. Most Russians sense that Chechnya is a pawn in factional contests for power

and money whose prizes are arms and oil. They would be prepared to cut their losses and concede it home rule. General Lebed, then, offers,

Russian nationhood no longer based on imperial domination of other peoples, and also a style of politics no longer mediated by feuding baronial cliques but projected directly from leader to people. That many Russians yearn for this kind of leadership they showed by voting for Vladimir Zhirinovsky in 1993 and 1995. Not that Lebed is simply another Zhirinovsky. He is

altogether a more serious political figure, with experience of military command and of imperial proconsulship; he makes warlike remarks, but sometimes follows them up with statesmanlike actions, as Nato discovered this month.

Like Mr Zhirinovsky, though. General Lebed would lead in a highly authoritarian manner. Politically he favours the free market, backed up by a ruthless campaign against the mafia and tax-dodgers, and he would give priority to creating a reformed, professional army.

President Yeltsin's dismissal of him is a major mistake, one of the most serious he has made. General Lebed will certainly take up the gauntlet, not by mounting an armed coup, which would be self-defeating for a man with his degree of public support, but by leading a national political crusade against the venal politicians, businessmen and sec-

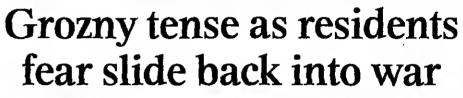
President Yeltsin.

He is ideally placed to do this, especially if Mr Yeltsin becomes incapable of holding office and if, as seems likely.

urity chiefs who surround

the Chechen war erupts again. General Lebed's brief period of high office gives him the necessary status to become the next President, but does not encumber him with the ties of patronage which would reduce him in the public's eyes to being merely another self-seeking politician. We may look back on his dismissal as being the otoment when a new style of Russian politics began.

The author is professor of Russion history of the School of Slovonic & East European Studies, University of London.



FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN GROZNY

WITH the removal of General Aleksandr Lebed, the main author of the peace process in Chechnya, residents of Grozny, its capital, are pre-occupied with the threat of a

occupied with the threat of a resumption of war.

Outwardly, the city is calm and getting back to normal two months after it was wrecked in the latest round of fighting. Both sides have said they are committed to a com-

they are committed to a continuation of the peace process. Bur Lyoma, a young Chechen fighter, was sensing tension from the Russians he now serves with in joint patrols in the city. "I brought these along today." he said, rattling a pile of cartridges in the pocket of his camouflage fatigues. "Lebed was a tough man and now they ve got rid of him." Then he made a gesture in the air as though pulling a trigger. "As soon as we have to, we'll do it right away," he

said.

Pavel, 19, a Russian conscript at a checkpoint on the edge of the city, was equally pessimistic. General Lebed, he said, understood the army's concerns and had been through combat. But the Moscow politicians did not care what happened to the soldiers. "Ask anyone and they will say that the war will start again," he said.

The main danger perceived in Chechnya is that the peace process was identified with one man and is now a hostage to Moscow politics. Movladi Udugov, the Chechen rebel

CHECHNYA

information minister, told reporters his republic was now at the centre of a "deadly fight for power".

"After what has happened in Moscow, we are ready for any turn of events," he said. "If war starts tomorrow, we won't be especially surprised. In principle, we are ready for peace and we are ready for

war."
Licutenant-General Valeri
Fyodorov, the Russian Deputy
Interior Minister, said yesterday that President Yeltsin, not
General Lebed, was the ultimate guarantor of the peace
agreement. "People come and
people go, but the President
stays the same," he said.
"Questions of war and peace
belong to the President and
the Government."

But a great many issues in Chechnya are still unresolved, despite the August 31 peace accord. 'There are a whole series of issues which could be used to make this thing fall apart if someone wanted it to," said a member of the delegation in Grozny from the Org-



anisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The two sides have so far

The two sides have so far agreed to disagree over the issue of Chechen independence and have not yet agreed on the form of elections provisionally set for January. The Russians say that they will keep two brigades permanently stationed in the republic. The Chechens say this is unacceptable.

The Chechens are especially

The Chechens are especially worried that Anatoli Kulikov, the Russian Interior Minister, the strongest crinic of the peace plan and General Lebed, will now dictate a return to a tough line in Chechnya.

ine in Chechnya.

"There will be provocations and attacks from unidentified acroplanes and helicopters and Kulikov will arrogantly say they were not Russian helicopters and planes," said Aslambek Ismailov, the commander of Grozny.

The remaining Russian residents of Grozny will also pin their hopes on General Lebed to solve their problems. Most of them want financial compensation to help them to move out. In the city centre, in a wasteland of ruins that resembles a First World War battlefield, General Lebed has set up an office to deal with citizens' requests. On Thursday there was a large crowd of Russians outside. But yesterday General Lebed's representatives had left and his name had been taken down from the door. A new sign said this was now the office of an as-yet unnamed "Permanent Representative" to the Chechen



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Only halfway to paradise paradise sought and paradise lost. Louis Antoine de Bougain-ville, the French explorer after them to set foot on this island. To

upai atoll, one of the most beautiful islands in French Polynesia, may be the nearest thing to a private heaven on earth, a small Garden of Eden that will be auctioned later this month at a

starting price of £15 million.
The 2,500-acre ring of coral in the Tahiti archipelago boasts everything to gladden the heart of a reclusive multi-millionaire: 25 miles of golden sand, coconut palms ruffled by gentle tradewinds, abundant wildlife, perfect weather, a turquoise lagoon, its own airstrip and, according to legend, a vast stash

of buried pirate treasure.

Brigitte Bardot, Princess Caroline of Monaco and the Duke and Duchess of Kent are among the privileged handful of people to have set foot over the past 30 years on this idyllic preserve, where parrots might disturb a sunbather's reverie but the paparazzi, never.

Yet there is another, more daunting side to this strange and lovely place: Tupai, according to Polynesian legend, is home to lurking spirits, a sacred domain forbidden to humans where con-

men have come seeking fortune and treasure in this Polynesian idyll: all were disappointed and many lives were lost in the quest for its hidden riches, for this island, with its charmed but cruel past, has brought little but illfortune to many of those who sought to plunder, possess or

The current owner is no exception. On October 31, Maurice Lejeune, the big-spending, free-wheeling but publicity-shy French lawyer and businessman who has run Tupai as a private playground for more than three decades, will sell off his island to the highest bidder. Once one of the richest men in Tahiti, Maftre Lejeune's various businesses have run into financial quicksand and his creditors are forcing him to sell. Now 85 and ailing, Maître Lejeune has more reason than most to wonder about the strange spell cast by the atoll as he prepares to surrender a place at once enchanting and cursed. The tale of Tupai is a saga of

lost. Louis Antoine de Bougain-ville, the French explorer after whom the climbing plant bougainvillea is named, was the first to record Tupai's dangerous allure. In 1768, in his journal Voyage around the world on the frigate Boudeuse and the store ship Star, Bougainville wrote of a "small uninhabited island, covered in fruit trees, wild nigs. covered in fruit trees, wild pigs, birds, teerning with fish and turtles: but the people believe spirits live there; it is their domain, and bad luck befalls the best that by chance or curiosity boat that by chance or curiosity steers towards this sacred island.

It has taken the life of almost all who set foot there." The atoll is a central element in Polynesian mythology, a sort of purgatory where unquiet ghosts roam — a "tabu", in the Tongan language, from which our word taboo has derived. Among the vegetation are the remains of ancient temples, or "marae", and the terrible slab of coral once used for executions,

Daniel Pardon, a local journalist and historian, says: "The atoll was a sorting place for the souls of the dead and the Polynesians'

go to Tupai, one must travel in number and stay as short a time

The beliefs may have reflected an early form of ecological aware-ness. Knowing that the island's rich ecosystem was also extremely fragile and likely to be destroyed by intense human habitation, Tupai was declared off-limits by Polynesian priests.

Bougainville arrived,
Tupai had already been
discovered by Europeans who cared nothing for
island superstition. When Captain Cook passed by the atoll in
1769. One of his massengers 1769, one of his passengers aboard the Endeavour, James Morrison, recorded that the few local inhabitants spoke a language different from Polynesian,

but oddly akin to Spanish.

These unlikely linguistic fragments may have been left behind by the lost frigate San Lesmes, which was dispatched in 1526 to find Ferdinand Magellan, unaware that the great Portuguese

navigator had already been killed by natives in the Philippines.

The San Lesmes was thought to have vanished without trace, but modern blood-tests carried out on Easter Islanders in the Pacific have identified a gene that could be traced directly to four Basque sailors, members of the San Lesmes crew, from a single vil-lage. According to legend some of the lost sailors, after moving from island to island in the Pacific, ended up on Tupai, leaving the traces of their language to intrigue the inquisitive British visitor more than two centuries later.

If the crewmembers from the San Lesmes were among the first Europeans to be drawn to the island, they were not the last. Several explorers in the 18th and early 19th centuries recorded the early 19th centuries recorded the atol's breathtaking beauty and in January, 1775, a Spanish visitor christened the island simply "Pajaros", or Birds, a tribute to its ornithological riches. But it was not until pirates chose to bury their loot here that Tupai truly hearn to evergise its fatal attraction. began to exercise its fatal attraction. In 1822 the crew of the warship Araucanao staged a mutiny and then set

about sacking the coast of Peru, raping, burning and pillaging churches. Weighed down with stolen treasures, the pirates wound up in the Tahiti archipelago where, according to some accounts, they went on a drinking

binge that lasted several months. t was the captain of the pirate vessel who, in an illadvised moment of confidence, had changed the boat's name to Providence. He decided to bury the plunder on Tupai with the intention of get-ting rid of his motley and drunken crew and then return to reclaim the spoils alone. He never made it back, and the secret of the exact location of the buried South American gold vanished with him. Yet the legend of the Gold of Tupai persisted and soon a series of more or less unsavoury charac-ters began flocking to this trea-sure island, lured by tales of vast wealth buried beneath the sand.

In the 1880s a particularly nasty pair of adventurers from Belgium, brothers Alexandre and Joseph Rorique, set out to find the hoard. They seized a boat in Tahiti, murdering one of the crew

to keep the rest in line, and headed for Tupai. Having searched the island thoroughly and found nothing, they headed home again, leaving behind an island pockmarked with holes and a death sentence for murder awaiting them in Tahiti. The Rorique brothers had

shown scant respect for the protective gods of Tupai, but the actions of the next El Dorado-seeker were still more repugnant. At the end of the 19th century a scoundrel by the name of Blackett, a British citizen originally from Nova Scotia, arrived on the island, bringing with him a machine for extracting coconut oil and a crim determination to find machine for extracting coconut oil and a grim determination to find the pirate gold. He may have succeeded, for in an act of remarkable brutality he murdered all 12 local people then working on the islands coconut. working on the island's coconut plantation, apparently in order to illence every witness to his find. Their 12 graves can be found beside the island's road. The dastardly Blackett was arrested and condemned to death but the Queen of the nearby island of

Continued on page 2

WILD BRITAIN26.

PROPERTY......46 GARDENING......8,9 HOME LIFE...

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Chi Kung exercises are supposed to make people more creative, better thinkers, clearer-skinned, thinner, and more sensual. Practitioners also claim that it relieves asthma

Enjoy the China syndrome

can't believe it. After years of trying to hold my stomach in, here is a woman telling me to let it out. Sue Weston is a Chi Kung teacher and my latest guru. This week, she is teaching me and others at The Health Club in Isleworth how to breathe, the Chinese way. "What?" said my husband, incredulous. "Why do you need to be taught how to breathe?"

Why indeed. In fact, correct breathing is not something we are very good at.
"Most people only breathe
using the top half of their lungs. They are like goldfish gasping for air. Your breath should be coming from what the Chinese call the dantien, about four centimetres below the navel, where our energy comes from," Ms Westoo

says. The game is to breathe from your abdomen by letting your stomach extend like a balloon as you breathe in. Thus my slack belly. It sounds simple. But in China students spend up to year learning the trick. It's diffi-

cult because, unsurprisingly I had never thought about my breathing before and, in concentrating on it, I tried too hard. So my breaths were noisily obvious, whereas the idea is that the breath should be "silent and like silk", Ms

Weston says.

"If the breath is noisy, you are expending too much energy. This should be about reducing effort and giving you more, not less energy."

This is what you do to achieve "the about national breath? Street with a property for the control of the contr breath". Stand with your feet about shoulder-width apart, your knees slightly bent. Relax your shoulders and jaw. Imagine a string runs from the top of your head to the ceiling, holding you upright but not rigid. Place your hands gently over your stomach, below your navel. Relax your buttocks. Take in a slow, steady breath

through your nose, allowing your stomach to swell like a balloon. Hold the breath gently. Then exhale, allowing the breath to come out slowly through your nose as your stomach subsides.

'a romantic delirium for troubled times'

PANAMA

"le Carre shows what an extraordinarily witty

"a book about legends and lies, about great

loves and little betrayals, about the myth of

"an excortating denunctation of hypocritical

OUT NOW

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diplomacy, opportunistic high politics and

exploitative journalism which explodes in

Gerala Kaufman, Sunday Telegraph

an apocalyptic climax"

truth and the consequences of deception.

As such it is a work of rare brilliance'

writer he can be...spectacularly funny'

Marcel Berlins, The Sunday Times

Karl Miller, The Observer

ACTERNATIVELY SPEAKING...

by RACHEL **KELLY**



Here's what happened to me. My breathing slowed. I had a sense of reaching down and connecting with my whole body. I calmed down and felt a warm glow of energy. Yes. really did, especially once I'd practised. (Better breathing is particularly good for those prone to panic attacks.) "Chi" means "vital energy"

in Chinese, while "Kung" means work (and it is). "It's hardly surprising you feel more energetic," Ms Weston says. You've swapped all the air inside your lungs, instead of just replacing the top slice, so the air is fresh rather than stale. And this new oxygenated air is being picked up by your bloodstream, energising all your organs."

ing in as you inhale and spent energy pouring out as you exhale. Nor are you wasting energy keeping all those muscles tight.

Tou should also feel

more creative, because true creativity comes from the whole, not just one's brain, Ms Weston says. But why? "It's to do with greater selfawareness, about being comfortable with your whole body," she says. "Our bodies aren't just a vehicle to carry our minds around." Ms Wes-ton guided us through more exercises which help us to breathe properly. This second one helps breathing by stretching the lower stom-

FACT FILE

CHI KUNG By combining breathing techniques and exercises, you can boost energy levels, improve health and become more creative.

ADVANTAGES

Anyone can participate, age and fitness no bar. DISADVANTAGES

It's boring.

COST COST £7-£10 a class. More for individual sessions.

buttocks and let your legs fall apart. Breathe down into the stomach, feeling your stom-ach expand. Now extend your breath so it comes up from the stomach into the chest. Bring your knees to-gether and gently stretch your legs. There were further

exercises, including one which opened up the back to allow greater lung capacity and belped reduce shoulder tension.

The Chinese have been soothed by Chi Kung for thousands of years. It is practised daily by millions from office clerks to cabinet ministers. Breathing is combined with other exercises to aid total well-being. But it is relatively new to the West. Ms Weston has been practising in Britain for a decade. In theory, the dedicated will become more creative, better thinkers, clearer-skinned, thinner, and more sensual. Practitioners claim Chi Kung will relieve hypertension and help heart complaints and even cancer, and it is good

for asthma sufferers. So does it work? It worked in class, but you have to practise for at least five minutes daily for longerterm effects. Unsurprisingly. the more you put in, the more in theory, you will achieve.

SPECIALISTS

The Health Club, Administration, 8 St John's Court, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 6PA (0181-758 1996). £7-£10 for 12 hour class, £65 for ten classes.

■ The Central Club, 16-22 Great Russell Street, London WCl. Contact: Michael Tse (0161-929 4485), £7 an hour. ■ Friends Institute, 220 Moseley Rd, Highgate, Birmingham. Contact: David Poon (0121-443 1828), £6 for I hour. GPO Social Club, Deansgate, Manchester, Contact: Michael Tse (0161-929 4485), £7 for 1 hour.

For Chi Kung teachers in the North, Scotland, Wales and

SERIOUS SHOPPING by GILES COREN

Hardware

y father used to take me to a see a magician most Saturday mornings. His name was Sydoey Venning. "Watch this," my dad would whisper. "Morning Sydney, can I have a quarter pound of galvanised roofing clouts. please." And the old man in the brown overalls would fill his hand with nails, and shuffle them

like peanuts. He would let them drop from his hand, one at a time, then deposit the handful on the scales and watch as the four ounce weight balanced perfectly horizootal on the other side. Then I would pick up one tiny clout and drop it on top of the pile, to Dust "the simple and

make the brass tray lower itself gently down, heavier In autumn now than the a man gets iron weight on a feeling in the other side. If you needed 17 "X" brand his bones No.4 picture that things books he could do it, first time. with the dip of suddenly a hand. Twen- . ty-two yards of need some green garden twine? He grouting, would roll it off sweeping the ball without breaking eye contact, and nailing

and snip it with a Stanley knife. Venning is gone now, and so are most of those cavernous old shops with their high drawers full of superannuated nails, and their smell of turps and metal buckets (for metal buckets do smell). But in autumn a man still gets that feeling in his bones, when things suddenly need nailing, grouting, sweeping and

lighting. So thank God for Robert Dyas. Nothing has changed in there since the 1970s — it is the only place, surely, where you can still buy Soda Stream concentrates (Tizer fla-

Sure, there is oothing very X Files about six metres of Spantex Drip Strip for £3.99 or a kidney-coloured General Purpose PVC gauntlet (£2.50). But where else would you find a Hedgehog Boot Scrub (£29.95), a Schulte Bean Slicer (£9.95), and six-pack of Pimpernel British Heritage placemats featuring assorted views (£16.95) all in the same small store? All life is here. You can get a souliess Vileda mop, or you can pay £9.95 for a steel mop bucket for that authentic retro feel. After an ersatz olde worlde hurricace lamp? Do not be put off by the £30 price tag in the Conran Shop the Chalwyn Tropic, a classic of its kind, is yours at R.D. for 5p sbort of a

tenner. You can go mad at Robert Dyas (indeed you always go mad at Robert Dyas) and yet never really damage your wallet. Take an average spree: a fourpack of barbecue skewers, eight-piece frozen pops set, a kilo of Miracle-Gro, a box of Vitax Pepper

effective way to deter cats and dogs", and a 5in-I multi-purpose Tupper the whole caboodle comes to only £13.56. You carry that lot around, by the way, in the big black plastic bucket (£3.25). Then Then you can get a pair of pliers. one of those bendy screw-drivers handy

ners, a Staywell pet door, half a litre of meths, a ball of string, a Little Nipper mousetrap, and a bag of spirit salts. all for the price of Mr McGregor's Wooden Bird Table with Beatrix Potter illustration on the box (£34.95).

for screwing

around cor-

The Dyas marketing trick is to fill the shop with useful things — like letterbox flaps (£6.95), six-piece combination spanner sets in chrome vanadium steel (£9.95), and ant-killer liquid in bright red zap-guns (£4.95) — so as to fool you into thinking that every-thing in the shop is equally useful.

And you never leave feeling guilty. You walk bome in your conker-coloured boots and your Irish fishing sweater feeling solid and chunky. Next week you can fill the damp cupboard uoder the stairs with linseed oil, 3in-l, Antiquax, and WD40. You bave to spread it out, there are only six more shopping Saturdays in autumn.

The exp

everyone ca

LOUIS VUITTON

DE VIEWS

20:15 (2) 3: 11. 20:15 (2) 3: 11.

Ireland, contact: Tse Qigong Centre, PO Box 116, South PO, Manchester M20 3YN (0161-929 4485), £6-7 for 1 hour. You do well to visualise ach. Lie on the floor, bring your feet close into your health-giving energy flood-'The buyers must contend with the watchful spirits' Continued from page I Bora Bora, unwilling to exejeune himself lived a with-drawn, even mysterious exiscute a British citizen and

incur Her Britannic Majesty's wrath, banished him Blackett, knowing that to THE TAILOR OF return to the island would be

to court summary death, may have passed on the secret of the buried gold to a sailor named Brown. Captain Brown's claims to know the whereabouts of the cache were sufficient to inspire yet another expedition. In 1932 a 20-strong team of explorers left New York aboard the yacht Genese in the certain belief that the treasure would be found beneath Tupai's largest stone temples. Based on no hard evidence, the value of the hoard was officially estimated at £20 million. A film company invested £130,000 in the Exploration Co. was filmed blowing up the remains of the temple with dynamite. The vandals left with little except bone fragments and a huse debt

huge debt.
But the treasure-hunters kept coming. In 1953, an Australian named Robert J.Cunningham, who had lived for some 24 years on Tupai, declared that he had never found the slightest trace of any precious metals on the atoli. He recalled, however, spending much of the last two decades chasing would-be gold-diggers out of



the coconut groves. In the 1960s the island became the property of Maurice Lejeune, a rich French lawyer living in Tahio. He set about transforming his acquisition into the ultimate luxury island hideaway. He brought in electricity generators and television, built comfortable accommodation and created an airstrip. The lawyer worked to protect the natural flora and fauna, but his efforts were not enough to

sansfy Tupai's environ-mentally-minded but not

over-friendly ghosts.

Maître Lejeune is described as living a "sumptuous" lifestyle between Tupai and Tahiti, 150 miles away, where he ran an extensive series of business operations in addition to his legal work. Selected members of the international jet set, film stars and royalty were allowed to make use of the island, but Maître Le-

Cover photographs of Brigitte Bardot and Princess Caroline of Monaco by Rex Island photographs on cover and this page by

tence, not unlike that of Marlon Brando, the American actor who took up hermitic residence on Tetiaroa, another island near Tahiti.

Maintaining an island utopia fit for Brigitte Bardot is not cheap. By the mid-1980s Maître Lejeune was looking to sell. A Japanese businessman began negotiations, possibly to set up a Las Vegas-style resort offering tax-free gambling to wealthy Japanese tourists. The price was said to have been set at E35 million, but protestors from Bora Bora objected violently to the sale of what they claimed were ancestral lands and the deal fell

through.

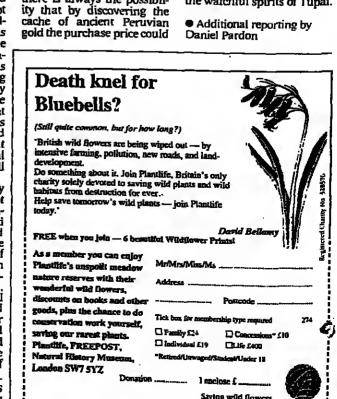
Maitre Lejeune's many business dealings have not made him universally popular in Tahiti. One Tahiti resident said: "He could have quietly built his fortune and taken advantage of Tupai at weekends and in retirement." Following a series of ill-fated investments.

Maître Lejeune's financial
difficulties multiplied
dramatically and this year his creditors finally stepped in to repossess the island and force its sale. Maître Lejeune will not discuss the auction of his most prized possession. "He is too stressed," says his son. The island, currently home to some 20 labourers

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and their families, will be sold in two lots, one of 1,750 acres at a starting price of Ell million and the other of 750 acres at £4 million. Auctioneers predict that the long-enduring pirate legend will drive the bidding up, since there is always the possibil-

be wiped out at a stroke, leaving enough left over for the all-important private plane. But before that cars happen, the buyer or buyers must first contend with the ancient guardians of the island and its treasure trove. the watchful spirits of Tupai.



ا حكدة من الأصل

a trickly in him

Found - the missing slink

مكذا من الأصل



Dusky pink catsuit, £150, from Whistles, branches netionwide (0171-487 4484)



Mauve crepe dress with silver straps, £79, from Kookai, branches nationwide (0171-937 4411)



The bare, spare but luxurious Halston look is back in the high street. GRACE BRADBERRY reports

ashion is set in e retro groove at the moment, with designers replaying 1970s tunes. One of the more welcome looks to slink out of the ettic is that of Haistoninspired evening-wear. Roy Halston Frowick was

an American designer, famed for his perfect cutting and immaculete stitching. He used to hang out at Studio 54, the legendary New York nightclub, with Bianca Jagger, Martha Graham, and Liza Minnelli, all of whom wore his clothes.

The look was bare, spare but luxurious: columns of matte silk jersey and slinky-malinky evening gowns with plunging necklines, Halston died in 1990, and Studio 54 closed in May this year. But even before its doors closed. fashion was rediscovering it.

So great is the obsession that there is even a film in the pipe-line — The Last Days of Disco — which is clearly based on the Man-

hattan nightspot. But the most influential figure in the Halston revival is Tom Ford, the American de-signer who now heads Gucci. In his autumn/ winter 96 catwalk show, he recreated the entire look. His distinctive dresses, which drape from

gold torques, or clinch around gold rings, at the back and front, have brought the high-glamour of the era The syelte pilot shirts, and satin pant-suits beloved of the 1970s jet-set are also enjoying a revival but many

1970s quite as Ford does. His imagination is firmly fixed at Studio 54, where what you wore on the dance floor was just as important

people won't remember the

as who you were. Designer names really did matter, because in the 1970s cheap imitations were nothing like the real thing. Life was simply not glamorous if one had to wear nylon. Sparks would fly on the dance floor, but they would be genuine electrical ones, created as the synthetic fibres built up a mighty charge. This time it's different. Luxtux dressing has become affordable, as high street chains experiment with new and ever more extraordinary fabric mixes.

Once, a body-hugging dress with plunging neckline and halter-neck would have

been a disaster in anything but matte silk jersey. Now Kookai, Morgan and Warehouse can come up with nylon versions that are not a million miles from the Gucci designs they are imitating.

The labels in high street clothes now tell an extraordinary tale. The Whistles all-

in-one shown here, which would not have looked out of place at Studio 54, is made from 50 per cent acetate and 50 per cent llama, an in-genious blend of cool wool and a synthetic textile. Indeed, artificial fibres are the big fashion story of the mid-1990s. Time magazine has just devoted seven pages to the subject, examining how leading designers now use sophisticated polyesters, ecetates and neoprene. Even Oscar de la Renta, the de-

signer who made his name using silk, is The look "I'm plunging all the way into vis-cose," Many of the is not for leading names. everyone including Helmut Lang and Romeo Gigli, have crebecause ated futuristic expensive looks. In the high street, however, ierseys the focus is far more on harnesscling to ing technology to produce alternatives to natural fibres. bump and Morgan, the

French-based

chain, has its own

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textile development unit to produce fabrics that will imitate high-fashion for a fraction of the price. To do that we sometimes have to develop

every

fibres on our own," Ruth Jones of Morgan says. "Micro-fibres in particular have been successful this winter."

The chain has been able to produce black body-hugging jersey dresses, with built-in add into the tenant Toronto. gold rings, that capture Tom Ford's predatory, feline look. Inevitably, technology can-not quite match the beauty of real silk jersey. But the use of different finishes, and the addition of Lycra, can give

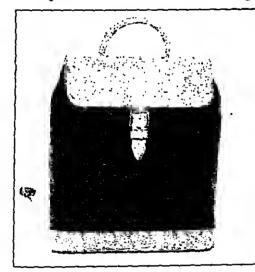
stretch that come close. Even so, the Halston look is not for everyone. Cut-away shepes can reveal areas best kept covered, and even expensive jerseys cling to every bump and bulge.

Photographer: Steve Poole Photographer's assistant: Suzy Campbell

Hair/make-up: Helen Bannon Model: Emma-Louise at Elite Fashion essistant: Bola Siwoku Over The Hill sofa, £1,200, from Furniture Union (46 Beak St W1, 0171-287 3424)

START THE WINTER WITH BAGS OF STYLE

The explosion of styles and colours this autumn in leather, suede and nylon means that everyone can afford to indulge. EMMA MAHONY looks at the best of bags bold and beautiful



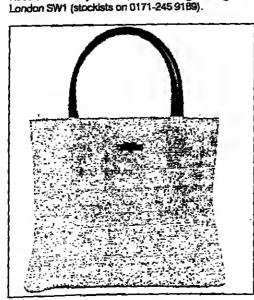
Louis Vuitton launched its new Damier canvas last month as e limited edition. This Arlequin backpack costs £525 from Louis Vuitton, 149 New Bond Street, London W1 (0800 393304 for mail order).



Gucci's eutumn collection includes the "ironing board" rucksack (£430), now in green, lime, orange rust, black, white, chocolate and blue. Gucci, 33 Old Bond Street, London W1 (stockists on 0171-629 2716).



This beetle rucksack (£50) is designed to cling to your back while its legs flap around your shoulders. From Redwall at Harvey Nichols, 109-125 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (stockists on 0171-245 9189).



Morgan's Nylon Shopper (£39.99) also comes in black, chocolate and green. It is a copy of Prada's nylon shopper, right down to the silver logo, but at a quarter of the price (stockists on 0171-436 5255).



MOSCHINO Shopper bag in orange leather with green stitching (£388). Available in four other colours, Moschino Boutique at Harvey Nichols, 109-125 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (stockists on 0171-245 9189).



RUSSELL & BROMLEY Russell and Bromley's unashamedly 1970s purple suede beg (£125) comes with matching boots (£195). Russell & Bromley, 24/25 New Bond Street, London W1 (stockists on 0171-629 8903).

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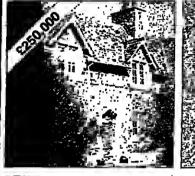
FORMER SCHOOLHOUSES



Old Schoolhouse, Ettrick, Selidrikshire. Returbished early 19th-century schoolhouse in half an acre of walled south-facing gardens, in the Borders hills. Three bedroom, two bathrooms uite), drawing room, dining room, kitchen and akroom. About: £115,000 (Savills, 0131 226 6961).



The Old School House, Bilton in Ainsty, York. Detached Georgian former school house in half an acre of gardens, about ten mile from York. Four bedrooms, bathroom, shower-room, drawing room, dining room, sitting room, kitchen/or doakroom, About £275,000 (Savills, 01904 620731)



Westwood House, Westwood, Broadclyst, Exeter. Converted Victorian former village school in extensive lawned gardens. Five bedrooms, two betthrooms, galleried reception hall, sitting room, dining room, study, kitchen, utility and laundry. Four car garage/large workship. About £250,000 (Village & Country Property, 01392 499699).

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How not to crack under the strain

Subsidence is easier to prevent than cracks appear, it is not just the house that sinks. cure. But if your home really is on The owner's heart does too. And quite a few hearts will get that sinking feeling this autumn as the effects of the slide, think before you underpin another dry summer are felt by the foundations of their

bricks and mortar.

Luckily this year, although dry, has been cooler than 1995, when the bill for sub-

sidence claims was a bumper

E326 million (compared with E125 million for 1994).

Given that most sub-

sidence problems are caused

by the clay soil beneath

foundations drying out, and that this is normally caused

in turn by the thirsty roots of

trees planted too close to properties, it is astonishing

foundations. A drive down the average Acacia Avenue often reveals a dozen semis

with trees nearer to their walls than is good for them. Clay soils mainly occur

south of an imaginary line between Hull and Bristol.

The moisture level in such

soils is crucial because clay

shrinks as it dries out, lower-

ing foundations that rest on

it. A large tree can suck 10,000 gallons out of the soil

each year, and clay is not

easy to rehydrate artificially.

The classic is someone buy-

ing a 1930s semi and plant-ing a row of conifers,

especially fast-growing Leylandü, which have a

huge appetite for moisture,"

says Ian Brett-Pitt of Direct

Line insurance's subsidence

unit, But, he adds, the last

thing that householders should do is rush out with an

"That can cause problems

with heave," he says. "The clay will slowly swell as it

moistens, pushing the

tact their insurer immediate-

bearing in mind that there is

often a £1,000 excess on

subsidence claims. A struc-

Most people should con-

they suspect a problem,

foundations out of true."

axe and hack trees down.



When subsidence is permitted to take a hold, as at this farmhouse, tackling the problem can be expensive

that an underpinning costing £10,000 to £30,000 is not

necessarily the most cost-

effective approach to sub-

sidence. "It was done to be on

the safe side when there were

small cracks," a spokesman

says. "But people are not

sidence is having. "After a dry period, it may be wise to wait and see if the building

recovers during the winter. But if the professionals say a

house is on the move, under-

pinning would be the only

If the problem is caused by

a neighbour's tree, the in-

surance company may sue

the neighbour's insurers to

But 175,000 houses have

been underpinned since

sure way of stopping it."

recoup their payout.

aking steps to stop damaging tree growth can limit the

effect that sub-

quite so hasty now."

tural engineer's report (£150-£500) may be called for, together with an arboriculturalist's report (about £100) to work out whether the tree can be safely removed or drastically pruned.

"People tend to panic about subsidence," Mr Brett-Pitt says. "In reality it affects very few homes and rarely occurs in properties less than 25 years old. When it does occur, underpinning used to be the remedy but that's not necessarily the case now."

These days, a structural engineer will often be asked to use tell-tale devices to monitor the movement of a crack for six months or a year. Sometimes the problem will right itself if a tree is properly dealt with.

The Building Research Establishment, which has just published a leaflet, Cracks Caused by Foundation Movement (£3.50), says

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brooms/1 emaint, eptions, large South fact acc., garage. In priv

rooms, Frisk £375,000.

FULHAM

1980, and the aftermath for their occupants when they want to move can be daunting. Not only can potential buyers be put off by the very thought of subsidence, but the house can be further blighted by the potential buyers' difficulty in getting the insurance required by building receivers. building societies. They might therefore be unable to get a mortgage. The Subsidence Claims Advisory Bureau was set up

to fill this gap in the market and to provide a nationwide specialist service to prepare reports on any suspect

properties.

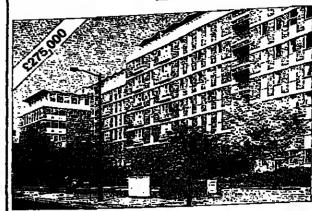
It can be difficult for a buyer to get cover," says the bureau's Chris Jordan, "but an American company called CNA will provide cover for these properties, subject to a survey. They take the view that a property that has been underpinned is generally a good risk."

The subsidence survey costs £125 plus VAT, and insurance is likely to cost 20 per cent more than for an unaffected property.

For those wishing to prevent subsidence, it is worth remembering that a tree's root activity is commensurate with its canopy, so the rule of thumb is to grow any tree further from your house than its mature height. Few trees can safely be planted closer than 20 feet to a property — and oak, willow and poplar are particularly prone to causing damage.

CHRISTINE WEBB The Association of British Insurers: 0171-600 3333. Association of Specialist Underpinning Contractors: 01252 336318, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors: 0171-222,7000. Subsidence Claims Advisory Bureau: 01424 733727. Building Research Establishment leaflets are available from CRC Ltd: 0171-505 6622. For Direct Line's free booklet Cracking the Problem of Subsidence, call 01473 824447. The Arboricultural Association:





For the £275,000 you would need to pay for a 68-year-old lease on a two-bedroom flat in a 1960s block in Ebury Street, Belgravia (above), you could buy an attractive thatched 18th-century house in the village of Broad Chalke in the popular Chalke Valley, Withshire, and commute into Waterloo from Salisbury mainline station (ten miles away) in 85 minutes. Cleave House (below) comes with a pretty garden and a small paddock, it has a master bedroom with ensuite bathroom, four further bedrooms, dning hall with exposed timbers and an inglenook fireplace, drawing morn, study, sitting room, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room room, study, sitting room, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast roand a double garage/games room.



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KENT

HATCH END Charming 5 bad Edwardian sent Add tocation, superb over green to its formation, superb over green to its ferminants, Easy access Phane Mere and Platch End BR Bress, Stephan African plrts 60ors & docum. Original femplesce. Drawing rm. storast distributions. Drawing rm. storast distributions (Figure 1) (Figure 1) out and the commentatory. Figures to sout 8th. Commentatory. Figures to sout 8th. Large utility-tools at 1. 0181 421 3745

مُكذا من الأصل in the middle

It's a breeze on the 39th floor

مكذا من الأصل



On a clear day: fine view of the City from the 39th-floor terrace



Listening in: the smaller reception area is wired for a music system



Lounging around: reception/dining area opens out on to a landscaped terrace and is suitable for entertaining - and impressing - large numbers of guests

The Penthouse, 39th-41st floor, Lauderdale Tower, The Barbican, London EC2 • Price: about £750,000 · Travel: Barbican tube across the road. City Airport less than half an hour away on a good day. On a bad day, don't even think about it . Shopping: Jermyn Street-style men's shops near by. Women, get in a cab and head to Knightsbridge, Marks and Sparks have a food hall at Moorgate . Entertainment: A short 3de down 39 floors in the lift will take you to the Barbican Arts Centre. This weekend choose from the RSC's As You Like It, the LSO playing Beethoven and Mozart, plus exhibitions and films • If you like long walks, but not on pavements, head for your country estate • Service charge: £8,870 for 1994/95

t is easy to dismiss penthouses as top-floor flats with delusions of grandeur and a price tag available on application. But to call the 2,344 square feet atop a tower block at the Barbican in London a mere flat would be like describing Spencer House as a pied à

What you get for £750,000 (or nearest offer) is three storeys, with acres of windows, perched in splendid isolation on the 39th floor. If you only want to flaunt your equity to invited guests this is for you: no neighbours, no rubberneckers peering through the security gates, no "property is theft" graffiti sprayed on your garden wall unless modern revolucionaries have access to a helispoter and are willing to die for the cause. Anonymity is total, security good.

Having taken my shoulder to the vault-like Lauderdale Tower main door, my mission was to negotiate my way past the porter who controls the entryphone and security camera outside the garage. Give the right answers and you gain access to the lifts.

The Tower's public areas are unprepossessing and will gain from the facelift planned next year. Its 1970s decor has not aged well and can seem overdesigned; the small metal Dalek standing in the middle of the lift area on the 39th floor, which I thought was a water fountain, houses the lift buttons, as I discovered when I failed to find them on the wall.

Once in the penthouse, the contrast could not be greater: a light, airy and calm oasis of minimalist 1990s pale beech floors, white walls, muted green and cream decor and an ever-changing sky that could be videoed and sold to

relaxation classes. Savills is selling this proper on its location as well as its rarity and high standard of refurbishment. Threequarters of a million will buy uninterrupted wrap-around views of the mini-Manhattan

City of London skyline and ing a vast fridge-freezer, but beyond, with tiny church spires tucked between the glass towers: a high-octane star of the mooey markets who thinks commuting is for wimps will reach his office in less time than it takes a derivatives trader to lose a million, leaving his motor in one of the three parking bays reserved for him in the private underground garage.

Penthouses are a specialised market, rarely bought by nesters looking for "cosy". but neither do they have to be futuristic aircraft hangars of in-your-face flash. The owner

neurial financier) has cleverly kept the refurbishment neutral and understated — a blank canvas on which the buyers can easily stamp their personality. I can now well

(a music-loving,

understand how living at the top, in the best of its kind, can become an expensive habit: hence the financier hopes, I gather, to move into another penthouse, perhaps a little larger, with a

view of the river. .The only open-plan space is with a huge sofa where you the large reception/dining perfect for entertaining" area, where I found myself wafting about striking super-model poses, wishing I had brought my good handbag and an Armani-suited companion. This area definitely does not lend itself easily to chintz - but if you yearn for original oak beams you would not start on the 39th floor of a tower block.

The galley kitchen, untainted by pine veneer, is designed for domestic efficiency at the press of a button rather than exchanging confidences over a botile of cheap red. Not surprisingly, it is packed with top-ofthe-range equipment includits severity is softened by umpteen square leet of mati green, colour-washed cupboards. I liked it a lot, but I understand green is not the colour of choice where interior designers gather, as it can be a difficult shade to sell

The green theme extends to the marble and dark green tiled main bathroom, mercifully free of gold fittings and Jacuzzi, just classic white porcelain his-and-her basins. enough shelving to hold the annual production of French fragrance houses, a power shower and a bath big enough to war-

to clients.

have high

walls. The

view is lost

but plants

and hairdos

survive'

rant a lifejacket. This was turning 'As it tends out to be my kind to get windy of property. And it is not all so high up, formal areas where you might feel compelled to get dolled up in designer gear and full make-up the terraces

just to read the Sunday papers. There are a few havens to slob in after a hard day of boardroom coups. The third bedroom has been converted into a small study/TV room

can relax enough not to worry if coffee gets spilt or you accidently squash a Belgian chocolate into the cushions. The second reception area houses a state-of-the-art ste-

reo system with speakers as large as room dividers, and the third floor has been transformed into a conservatory. We are not talking a few pots of stringy geraniums and two bamboo chairs here - this is a 20ft by 10ft Kew-like micro eco-systern of palms and ferns with a tinkling "water feature" and Welsh slate floor, plus sunbathing terrace (with sound system, phone and entryphone, should being in-

section of Central American

forest make you tense).

To stop any feeling of being sealed in the Mir space station — and I did find the total silence almost unnerving - each floor has a terrace, two of them landscaped (the word patio is not used in the same breath as penthouse and personally I do not move in circles where large balconies are pro-fessionally landscaped). As it tends to get breezy in the stratosphere, terraces two and three have high walls. You lose the view but the plants and hairstyles survive. These are pretty, walled gardens big enough for alfresco meals, and the distant quiet hum of traffic was rather comforting. At night, with many of the buildings floodlit, you have your own personal City son et lumière Terrace one is much smaller but has a chest-high wall and uninterrrupted view.

This may seem churlish, but if I were handing over codles of dosh I would want a bigger master bedroom with a huge window, where I could lie back and watch the City wind down in the evening or move into top gear soon after sunrise, not a large lozenge-shaped port-bole and skylight. On the other hand, I would part with serious money for its

walk-in clothes cupboard. I would love to live there, despite not knowing when the dustbins are emptied. whether I could buy milk round the corner at 10pm, or who cleans the windows and keeps the ecosystem alive and the water feature tinkling. I did not like to ask. Captains of all they survey (and there is a telescope on a viewing platform to prove it) did oot get where they are today by cluttering up their minds with petty detail and I wanted to be a contender - if only for a morning.

CHRISTINE WHEELER

WINADREAM HOLIDAY TO SOUTH AFRICA WORTH £6,000

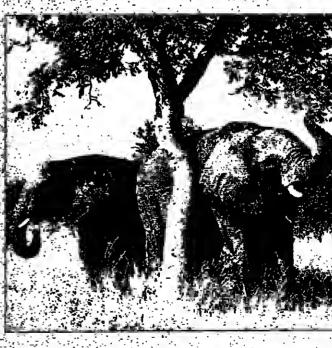
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The Times, in association with Amarula, offers you the chance to win an exciting two-week holiday for two in South Africa and Botswana worth £6.11. Also, every reader aged over 18 can get £1 off a bottle of Amarula, a new and delicious cream liqueur. The holiday includes a safari, trips to Table Mountain or Victoria Falls, boat rides, fishing, relaxing by luxurious pools in fourstar hotels - and £1,000 spending money.

HOW TO ENTER For a chance to win the £6,000 holiday you must answer two questions. The first is below and another will appear on Monday with the competition entry form. The fruit of the wild marula tree is:

famous for which quality? a) curing headaches

b) as an aphrodisiac c) preventing mosquito bites



AMARULA, is a cream liqueur with a distinctive fruity-toffee taste, made from the fruit of the wild marula tree which grows on the plains of southern Africa.

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Amarula is available in the UK from leading supermarkets and off licences at around £11 a bottle but Times readers can take advantage of a El off voucher to be published on Monday*.

*Offer not available in Eire or Channel Islands

CHANGING TIMES

PROPERTY NEWS

Alexei moves in, Victoria sells up

ALEXE1 SAYLE, the comedian who recently appeared in the BBC2 series Great Railway Journeys of the World, has bought an apartment at Tanners Yard, a clutch of Victorian buildings and new warehouse-style flats at Bermondsey Market, near Tower Bridge in east London.

According to agents Cluttons (0171-407 3669), the madcap Liverpudlian paid around £150,000 for his two-bedroom flat in Market House, a coovert-ed Victorian building. The flat has a 26ft by 17ft living room, original castiroo colonettes, arched windows, exposed brick-work and underground car parking.

■ Biugrapher Victoria Glendinning is selling her cottage in Kentish Town, north London

through John D. Wood (0171-722 5556). Davis Cottage, on offer at £425,000, is hidden away down a leafy private lane. It has three bedrooms, a bathroom, shower room, reception, dining room, kitchen and cloakroom and is set behind a walled west-facing garden.

Lord Barber, the Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer between 1970 and 1974, is selling the bouse in Montpelier Square, London SW7, which has been his bome for the past 35 years.
There is a ground-floor
dining room and a 26ftlong first-floor drawing
room. The top floor was
designed by Barber him self some 20 years ago, and incorporates Egyp-tian friezes. Agents W.A. Ellis are asking £1.3 million for the bouse.

THE PLANNING system is holding up further recovery in the housing market, says the House Builders' Federation, the builders' lobby group. Roger Humber, the federation's director, complains that applications to develop land are beld up for longer than the eight weeks which the Government recommends. So the number of new homes being built this year is down by 8 per cent, which means that those wishing to buy a new home may well be frustrated.

Royal request

THE PRINCE of Wales has asked for planning permission to go ahead with building the 72-hectare second phase of Poundbury, his traditional village on the outskirts of Dorchester in west

The first phase consisted of 180 bomes, most of which have been sold. The second phase, which will lie to the west and northwest of the town, will include 40 hectares

of parkland and 32 hectares that can be developed for housing and

The new development has been masterminded Leon Krier. The bope is to create a natural urban pattern of roads rather than a suburban layout of straight, characterless

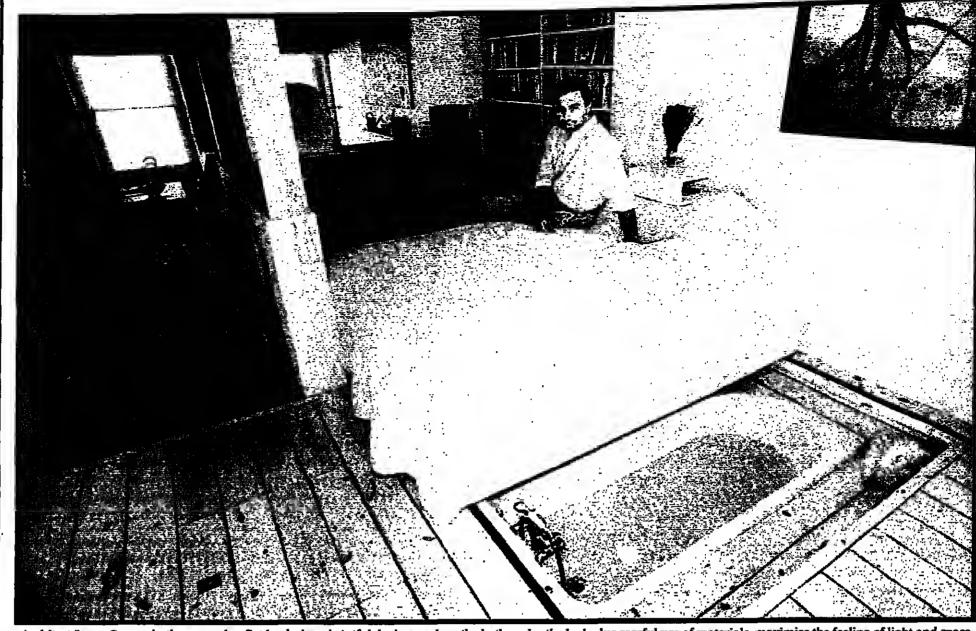
West Dorset District Council is currently inspecting the plans.



The Prince of Wales tours Poundbury, west Dorset

KNIGHT FRANK (0171-629 8171) is asking £1.5 million for St George's Vineyard in East Sussex, one of the UK's best-known vineyards, which supplies wine to the House of Commons. Set in 37 acres with 20 acres of mature vines, it includes a 17th-century Grade II listed six-bedroom house, an 11th-century tithe barn, a purpose-built winery, restaurant, shop and winemaking equipment.

I'm the urban spaceman



Architect Jason Cooper in the open-plan flat he designed. Artful devices such as the bath under the bed, plus careful use of materials, maximise the feeling of light and space

othing prepares you for what lies ahead when you ring the bell of an insalubrious Victorian terraced building off Westbourne Grove in west London and ascend the narrow, tread-worn staircase. Open the door of the second-floor hat and you enter an oasis of calm

and space belied by its entrance.

The floor area measures just 17ft by 28ft, into which were originally crammed an unlit internal hall, a thin kitchen, a bathroom, sitting room and bedroom. Now the flimsy partition walls have been demolished in favour of one space which ingeniously provides for all the needs of the flat's owner, 41-yearold cartoonist and artist Sue

McCartney-Snape.
"It was previously very depressing, lacking in light and extremely claustrophic," Ms McCartney-Spane says "Now I can adjust the flat according to how I wish to use it, night or day.'

At one end is the living area, with an unobtrusive Ikea kitchen in birch tucked into a corner. Architect Jason Cooper has raised the units on a white plinth to allow the kitchen to "float" free of the floor level. This device also prevents dirt from collecting in that inevitable

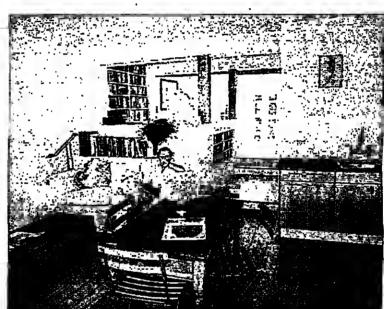
gap between floor and units.

Topped in solid beech, the units stand proud of the wall - which means there is no need for wall tiles and no prospect of gunge collecting behind the units, which are easy to Architect Jason Cooper turned a client's dark and cramped flat into an airy, stylish city pad, writes RACHEL KELLY. How? To begin with, by slotting the bath underneath a sliding bed

While the kitchen table came from Ms Mccartney-snape's previous flat, the sofa comes from Habitat. Its white cover adds to the general impression of space and light. The windows are simply dressed in slatted blinds. "Every-thing in the flat emphasises the horizontal rather than the vertical, which makes things look bigger," explains Mr Cooper. The blinds occupy less space than bulky curtains and allow light to flood in, while the fireplace is enclosed in a horizontal slab of oak - again to

draw the eye sideways. The floors are made of reclaimed which gives them a pleasantly worn feel and a richness of colour which saves the room from any suggestion of Scandinavian iciness.

The living area is divided from the sleeping area by a waist-high partition which doubles as a bookshelf. Tucked behind it is a desk on a higher platform that overlooks the living space. This platform includes the flat's chief innovation: a bed on rails that can be slid into the desk area, thereby revealing a bath beneath it. Such an arrangement also allows for a large recessed "deck" area on either side of the bath to accommodate the



The living area incorporates a corner kitchen with "floating" units

usual paraphernalia of plastic ducks, shampoo and so forth. The layered approach neatly solves the problem of making such small space fulfil so many functions. "And it means that my bathroom is actually very large,

instead of being a tiny box," Ms

McCartney-Snape says. The bath also incorporates an underwater light, which catches the ripples in the water to project an ever-changing tracery of dappled light on to the ceiling and walls. A

discreet extractor fan deals with the condensation, while modesty is ensured by a blind — matching the window blinds — which can be lowered to conceal the raised area. And what of that bugbear of all tiny flats: storage? In this case, a vast area of hatch-accessed space is concealed beneath the floor.

xtra drawers for Ms McCartney-Snape's drawings are litted into the steps that lead to the upper areas of the flat. The sliding bed is equipped with large drawers underneath, and the thick walls by the windows conceal cupboards and a miniature basin.

The flat cost £57,000 and Ms McCartney-Snape has probably spent some £25,000 renovating and remodelling the interior. She almost certainly bought a bargain: a

the flat at £125,000. Prescient readers will have noticed one omission so far. What of a lavatory? This has been fitted in under the stairs leading to the upper floors, in a cramped space which once housed the meters.

There is a nice contrast between

the openness of the flat and the tiny, Alice-in-Wonderland feel to the lavatory," Mr Cooper says. The lavatory is deliberately finished with raw wall plaster to give it a womb-like feel.

 Jason Cooper Architects: 0171-727 3104.

Our little wooden house in the wilderness

Goodbye bricks and mortar. A new timber home is cheaper, warmer and more romantic

lair and Pauline Wheeler captured on video the arrival of their new home, delivered in two halves on a low-loader and manoeuvred into place by crane in a precise, well-practised operation.

For them the timber lodge, on a site bordering Scottish woodland, represents the start of a new life eight months after Mr Wheeler, formerly a director with a large brewery, was made redundant at the age of 50. "We had always said we would

like to retire to the area in Perthshire where we spent our holidays. When a new job did not materialise, we decided to make the move earlier," Mr Wheeler

says.

Because they planned to buy a flat or small house outright, before the sale of their home in England, house-hunting in their

£45,000 price range was difficult.
The owner of the park where "The owner of the park where our holiday caravan was sited said he had a plot for a permanent home and suggested that we looked at the neighbouring timber lodge." Mr Wheeler says. After a tour of the lodge and a visit to the Derbyshire head-quarters of its suppliers, Pinelog, the Wheelers decided to buy a tailor-made three-bedroomed lodge for £47,500.

During the 1980s, many single-

During the 1980s, many single storey timber houses were sold as second homes, sited either on holiday parks or on private land,





Home haulage: half of Blair and Pauline Wheeler's bouse arrives on a low-loader. Right the couple admire their new residence in the Perthshire countryside where they once spent summer holidays

subject to planning permission. As their popularity as holiday homes grew, so did the number of people choosing to live in them

permanently. Most timber homes comply with the statutory legal and planning definition of a caravan but, with minor alterations, can be built to comply with full building regulation standards. Potential owners must apply for planning permission from local authorities before siting their home unless it falls within the ambit of "permitted

One elderly widow was allowed

her daughter's house, enabling her to retain an independent

home close to her family.

A handful of companies in the UK supply timber homes, including those which import "kits" from Scandinavia. Paula Skelton, the sales manager of Pinelog, which began manufacturing timber lodges almost 20 years ago, says: "In some areas permission can be difficult to obtain. But in many locations a timber home is more suitable than a brick

Many customers say their timber home "represents a dream", One elderly widow was allowed to site a lodge in the grounds of certain charm, a different at-

mosphere from a brick house. They conjure up an image of the pioneering spirit, of log cabins. There is a touch of romance linked in there, too."

inelog's lodges are built from Scandinavian red-wood. Because all the external timbers are treated against rot and infesta-tion, they should last a lifetime. Most timber homes include high levels of insulation as well as double glazing, and many owners comment on their warmth. Electric panel heaters are fitted as

Although there are severa

standard designs, the lodges are made individually to incorporate customers' particular needs and wishes. Mr and Mrs Wheeler asked for two of their three bedrooms to be larger than standard size and the third, which they plan to use as a utility and store room, smaller.

Pinelog's lodges range from a 25ft by 20ft two-bedroom lodge at £24,800. plus £3,200 for the furnishing pack, to a 46ft by 20ft four-bedroom lodge with two bathrooms at £41,000 plus £5,230 for furnishings. Delivery is extra and usually costs between £1,500 and £2,500.

Farmer Adam Hurst and his

partner Jackie Smith. both 28, and their eight-month-old daugh-ter Yasmin share a three-bed-room timber borne which is hidden from public view to com-ply with planning consent con-ditions. Sited on Mr Hurst's father's 300-acre dairy farm near Stoke on Trent, their 20ft-by-36ft house has a surrounding verandah and cannot be seen even from the nearest country lane.

Simon and Lou Savage's tim-ber home overlooks the river at Stratford-upon-Avon, built on five-foot-high pillars to escape flooding, on land they bought initially to use as a garden. Their individually-designed

house, with two bathrooms and large patio windows, cost around £50,000. When we bought the ESU,UUD. "When we bought the land there was an old wood-and-asbestos holiday home on it and planners gave us permission to build a new property," says Mr Savage. "I had always wanted to live in a wooden house — I like the idea of having a verandah all runnd. It's very economical and in round. It's very economical and in a great location. We can go shopping in town by boat up the river to avoid parking problems."

LYNNE GREENWOOD Pinelog, Riverside Works.
 Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 IGS (01629 814481).

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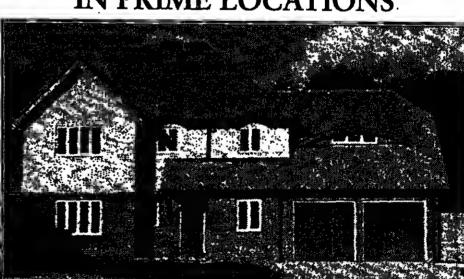
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Late developer makes its debut in the colour purple

Colchicums, those woodland perennials with cheerful flowers, brighten up autumn, says STEPHEN ANDERTON

are over and there is only autumn leaf colour to look forward to, out come the colchicums - great clumps of crocus-like flow-ers, in glowing rosy purples, mauve and white, rising

leafless from the ground.
I left all mine behind in Northumberland, and so jumped at the chance to buy some in Saffron Walden market at the beginning of September. In the dry state they are the oddest plants. Technically they are corms rather than bulbs and look like large, deformed tulip bulbs with their shiny brown skins. Big ones can be the size of a small fist, and the offsets when you divide them only the size of a snowdrop.

They have this odd lump at the bottom, the foot, from which springs all activity during growth, You can bring a large dry corm to flowering by placing it on a sunny windowsill, on a saucer with no soil, such is the reserve of energy and moisture in the corm. The bulbs I bought had already begun to develop the bud in its sheath alongside the bulb, and I took great care not to damage it, because through that sheath will come the leaves

Colchicums are not dormant for long. The great flappy leaves appear in spring but do not die down until June. The yellowing foliage flounces around for ever, a dying diva refusing to leave the stage. Once everything is quiet, that is the time to divide them and spread them around the garden before new roots or shoots appear with the autumn rains and cooler nights.

Some colchicums are tougher than others. The such as Colchicum outum-



Colchicums give late colour

nale, C. speciosum and their hybrids, will stand lifting in flower. Most of my Northumbrian plants came from the mother of a farmer friend, who would turn up with a bucket-load lifted in full flower, and they were never any the worse for that.

Ted Bullock is head gardener for the National Trust at Felbrigg Hall in Norfolk. He looks after a National Collection of colchicums that includes 38 species and 25 cultivars. He disapproves of moving them in flower, but then he is dealing with the smaller, difficult species as well as the large, easy ones.

The smaller species are less generous. They flower with less concentration, in dribs and drabs. Some come in July when their colour is a less precious commodity. Some wait until spring to flower. And all in all they require more attention. Mr Bullock grows them in pots and troughs, where he can care for them easily. The easier, bigger colchicums are set out in demonstration beds, where visitors can compare colours and performance. He also has long borders of the species C. tenorei running purple under box hedges by the thousand in September. The garden at Felbrigg (01263 837444) is open until November 23. When I see colchicums in the wild (usually C. autumnale) in southwest France, they are always dot-ted thinly in long grass at the edge of woodland. They do not seem to colonise thickly, but when I gave a bucket of small corms to my motherin-law a few years ago, she had a dense, flowering colony in three years.

Every bit of the plant is oisonous so you have to be careful planting them if there is a risk to animals and children. The leaves must be left to die down completely or the new corm will not develop properly underground. If you hate the sight of them, then C. ogrippinum (named after that poisonous old Roman) is tidier. The leaves only reach 7-8in high and sometimes disappear as early as May. The flowers are rosy-lilac but the petals are chequered. I used to grow it through a carpet of silver Stachys byzantina.

olchicums do not seem to be prone to virus problems, but slugs and woodlice sometimes take a fancy to them. Mr Bullock finds that slugs prefer the wide-necked cultivars and species such as C. byzantinum, whose necks they slither down to do their dirty work. Consequently, he likes to lift his corms every couple of years and clean them up before replanting. With glamorous species such as the large white C. speciosum 'Album' he finds it well worth the effort. He covers pots and troughs with shingle to deter pests from above. For the smaller species a light soil is helpful, but most of the common ones thrive in quite a heavy loam. The strong species are also suitable for planting in rough or meadow grass, where the leaves are less of an embarrassment in spring.



Open this weekend

LATE OCTOBER is a watershed for garden visiting, signalling the end of the flowery scenes and the closure of many gardens for the winter months. But visits through the autumn and winter can be equally rewarding and instructive. Many places offer somewhere to walk, spectacular views and architecture within a natural landscape.

■ The Savill Garden. Wick Lane, Englefield Green.

Surrey (01753 860222) Off A30 into Wick Lane. 3m west of Egham and 5m from Windsor. Open: daily to end Oct. 10am-6pm, daily Nov to Feb. 10am-4pm, closed Dec 25-26. Entrance: £3.50, accompanied under-16s free

THE SAVILL GARDEN (pictured left) exemplifies one of the most important styles of 20th-century gardening the woodland garden developed from a natural site. Autumn is a wonderful time to visit, to catch sun filtering through the changing foliage of the venerable beeches and to follow the changing tottage of the venerable beeches and to follow the network of paths that lead through the 35 acres, up and down the sloping ground and across the streams. Without the summer array of flower and foliage, you can appreciate the ornamental trees and shrubs added during the 1930s.

■ Overbecks, Sharpitor, Salcombe, Devon (01548 842893) 1.5m southwest of Salcombe via single-track roads. Open: daily all year, 10am-8pm (sunset if earlier). Entrance: £2

THERE ARE few other gardens in England where palms are the most widely planted trees. They are a testament to the remarkable microclimate that Overbecks enjoys on a terraced slope to maximise the sun. The result is a wealth of plants that overflow from the Edwardian terraced framework. From late summer into autumn half-hardy perennials, different fuchsias and one of the garden's exotic highlights, the blue-flowered Chatham Island forget-me-not, Myosotidium hortensia, all display. But perhaps most interesting at this time of year is the foliage and shape of the many broad-leaved or evergreen trees and shrubs from around the world that flourish in the garden.

■ The Dorothy Clive Garden, Willoughbridge, Market Drayton, Shropshire (01630 647237)

On A51 between Nantwich and Stone. Open: daily to end Oct, 10am-5.30pm. Entrance: £2.60, children £1

NAMED AFTER the woman who so enjoyed seeing this garden begin during the last years of her life, and created by her husband. Colonel Harry Clive, it is a place to be enjoyed at any time of the year. The former quarry now has paths winding through woodland garden, between great groups of shrubs decorated with ornamental trees, including fine acers. The scree garden is a treasure-trove of rare alpines stretching down towards a lily pool.

GEORGE PLUMPTRE

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MOODULE TO THE

We regret that the opening times of Hackwood Park were given incorrectly in Weekend last Saturday.

WEEKEND TIPS

Prune back any small, first-season hedging plants of beech, hawthorn and privet by two-thirds or to about

6-9in to ensure a dense, bushy hedge in the future. ■ Complete any trimming of evergreen hedges. Cut out fruited stems on cultivated blackberries, and

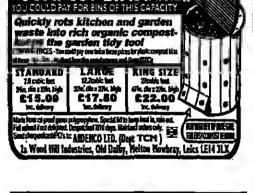
tie in the new ones at even spacings. Sever any layered tips and replant elsewhere. Plant strawberries.

Plant nerine bulbs, and divide old mounded clumps

■ Check ties on recently planted young trees before autumn in case they have become tight.

Check that the greenhouse heater is working before the cold weather arrives. Put up polythene or bubble film insulation inside greenhouses in cold areas.

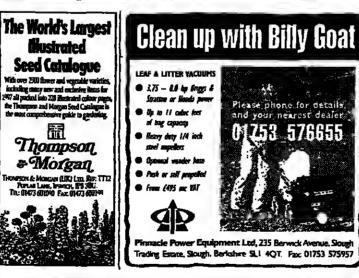


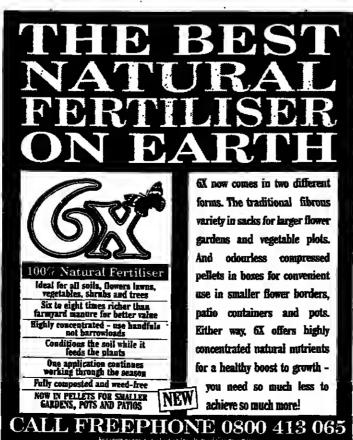












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GARDEN ANSWERS STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters be a cultivated wild-type stockists who have agreed not to trade in wild collected

Plants and flowers under lime trees in my garden become covered in a black sticky substance. Is there anything I can do? — L.A. Master, London WCl., Lime trees are subject

A to attack by aphids, which drip their sticky excreta ("honeydew") on to plants below, and these become black with sooty mould and the dirt and dust of cities. Lime trees are greedy and shallow rooted, and best suited to large gardens with only turf or gravel below. Where honeydew is a problem. regular spraying of the foliage beneath with a hosepipe will stop it becoming unpleasant.

My garden is in an area covered by a Tree Preservation Order. For legislative purposes, what constitutes a tree? It would seem prudent to avoid planting species controlled by law in case pruning. topiary or other training contravened the law. P. Richardson, Falmouth, Cornwall.

A TPOs can apply to any species, so long as it is big enough. In Conservation Areas (not the same as a blanket TPO) a protected "tree" is one which has a diameter of 75mm or more at a height of 1.5m. Permission must be sought to work on trees over that size.

Our magnolia tree is carrying deformed buds, some as large as 7in. It is 35 years old, and was shaped and thinned out five years ago, and we have it retrimmed every two years. Our trained "forester" does not recognise the problem.

— F.E. Lucas, Knebworth. Hertfordshire.

A These are seed pods and will split open to reveal the seeds. You could grow new ones. Some mag-nolias have large pods and Magnolia acuminata is known as the "cucumber tree". It is not necessary to prune magnolias, unless they are in the way. Is your "forester" that well trained?

My local shop is selling "wild tulip bulbs from Holland". Is it likely these have been dug up from the wild, or will they tulip? - R. Gyles, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Write to Flora and Fau-A na International, Great Eastern House, Tenison Road, Cambridge CBI 2DT for the Good Bulb Guide (£1.50 plus sae). This lists

bulbs. FFI has also set up an Indigenous Propagation Project, to get Dutch villagers to produce their local bulbs commercially and sell them. abroad. You can join the FFI for £12 a year, and receive the guide for free.

Garden Answers, Weeken The Times, I Pennington St. London El 9XN. We regret that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also regrets that one enclosures cannot be returned.

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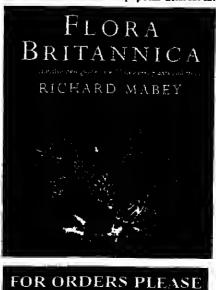


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A green-fingered mission impossible

erge Charles took on an impossibly sized and shaped garden and won. He would evoke the jungle-like look of his mother's plot in Mauritius but a few factors stood in his way. Tottenham, north London, has its good points but streets of Edwar-dian respectability have little in common with the fecund. voluptuous vegetation of an

Indian Ocean island. His garden is so tiny and awkwardly shaped — a small, overshadowed tri-angle at the back, a five-foot

strip at the front that most people would have given up. And the heavy clay soil made in even more of a challenge.

Yet today his house is referred one with the beautiful garden". From inside, Rousseau-esque leaves have ob-scured the view to the street beyond, giving a taste of the exotic, while people passing by outside have the pleasure of discovering an unexpected oasis.

In the same way, the tiny but elegant front garden pictured right also affords both private and public plea-sure. In fact, the rules followed in each instance are similar: a mass of interest is packed into tiny spaces by making the most of colours and shapes. The alternative to this approach is to keep things perfectly simple, with only one type of plant and colour range.

In 17 years, Mr Charles has transformed the fivefoot-wide cleft between the front of his house and the sixfoot hedge which borders the garden into an area of startling abandon.

leaf shape and plant types races along the ground and

NATURAL LIMESTONE

FIRE SURPOUNDS

BY JANE OWEN

Serge Charles: recreating Mauritius in a small, cramped London garden

up the wall of his east-facing house. The planting is so tight that there is little room to walk.

The general style is cottage garden but the plants are, on the whole, not. Traditional, neatly-clipped balls of the hedging honeysuckle Loni-cera nitida snuggle beside the huge, pale-green-leaved Datura, the foot-long white bell-shaped flowers of which fill the street with a heavy honey scent even in late

Like much of his garden,

the honeysuckle regularly

feasts on tomato feed and a

thick manure mulch over the

clay, which has had shingle and garden soil added. The

Datura is treated like bed-

ding and chucked away at

demure dark-green uniform beside red-and-white balletdancer flowers of fuchsias.

Hostas, ferns and the green and white striped Miscanthus "Zebrinus" grass, now so despised by haughty culturalists, mingle with roses and that brilliant-white-stemmed bramble Rubus cockburnianus. Some species are planted directly into the ground while others, such as the acid-loving camellia, live in pots. Hack your way through

the front garden and down a

tiny side passage filled with

nots and you emerge in the

back garden — an impossible

land, where the riotous

planting calms to a cool

billow of bamboos, ferns and

grasses. There is colour, too,

from begonias, geraniums

and oleander (it flowers ev-

ery year and never gets any

The effect of a two-storey

brick wall to one side of the

back garden is offset by old

mirrors hung from the walls.

climber-covered trellis and a thick layer of white shingle,

all of which bring light into

To tackle a garden as small

as Mr Charles's, there are a

number of routes you can

frost protection)

the garden.

equilateral triangle of

take. The first step is to ignore the rule book - most rules are aimed at normal spaces. Then you must make a policy decision: either to keep the design extremely simple, using only one type of plant (evergreen and grey planting such as box or lavender, for instance) or to pack in a mass of interest, as Mr Charles has done, so that there is always something new to look at. Your next objective is to get the soil right, or use pots if the garden is filled with rubble.

Another favourite trick is

صكذا من الأصل

to pack in "eyecatchers" to draw attention to tar points in the garden and away from eyesores such as unsightly neighbouring skylines or intrusive conifers. These can be anvihine interesting — from a sculpture to almost any artefact. hydrant, painted white, used as a successful eyecatcher in a semi-

formal garden. One of the most important aspects, often overlooked, is to make the most of any available light: use mir-

rors or pierce "gossip win-dows" into hedges to allow light through, and use pale shingle, stone or decking for the ground surface. Do not attempt grass because it never works well in small areas. Trellis, especially heavy-duty hand-made trellis (consult garden designers in the Yellow Pages) is an excellent way to let light in, give privacy and allow for vertical gardening. Use every dimension: beds, walls and, in very hot spaces, small

pergolas for climbers.
Finally, give the impression that the garden goes on further than it really does by building doors or mirrorfilled arches on boundary walls "leading through" to next door's garden.



The exuberant way to fill space: a picture from Thomasina Tarling's Truly Tiny Gardens (Conran Octopus, £10.99)

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the end of each season. White-flowered Solanum, bright orange-berried firethorn. flamboyant grey-green remains of the clematis "Nelly Moser" and purple-flowered "Jackmanii" race each other up the red brick walls of the house, Five-foothigh, purple-flowered Verbena patagonica (V. bonariensis) zings beside bright orange Crocosmia flowers. Slender lily stalks great whirl of colour, stand sentry beside a double pink camellia, now in its **HOMES & GARDENS FARMINGTON**

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Scooby is a ten-month-old black cross-breed who came to the RSPCA after his owners were reported for cruelty. He needs an affectionate owner. Contact Leeds Animal Home and Clinic, Cavendish Street, Leeds LS3 1LY (0113-245 5132).



DOGS

The ruff guide to travelling with dogs – avoid Britain

With Britain's quarantine regulations under review GUY WALTERS meets a man who has travelled the world with his pets and sees how other countries cope

the two miniature longhaired Dachshunds owned by David Gilmour, a 60-year-old Ca-nadian investor would boast entry stamps from, among others, Canada, the United States, and France, where they live with their owner. Mr Gilmour, who runs

businesses, resorts and developments around the world, says that he has had no problems taking Monte and Carlo anywhere in the world apart from the UK. His horror at our quarantine laws has put him off coming here. He says: "Because of business ideas and various opportunities I wanted to buy somewhere to live in England but when I looked into the quarantine laws I was appailed. It put me off buying in Britain, and it certainly stopped me from investing - and my investments are significant.

The procedure Mr Gilmour adopts to fly Monte and Carlo from country to country is simple. Because the dogs are small, they can be taken on a plane as hand luggage, in a small container that can slip under the aircraft seat in front. Larger animals would have to be carried in the hold, which Mr Gilmour feels is risky, especially when aircraft bake for hours on hot runways during delays.

Bureaucracy in most coun-tries is minimal. In France, Mr Gilmour says that he, Monte and Carlo are just waved through. In New York and the rest of the United States, a record of innoculations is examined. In Canada the same applies. When driving through continental Europe, most officials barely check humans, let alone animals. What deterred Mr Gilmour from visiting the have his dogs incarcerated for six months. "For a dog to spend six months in quarantine is the equivalent of a human spending five years in a prison cell," he claims. Monte and Carlo both

have identity numbers tattooed in their ears, they bave been vaccinated against every canine disease possible, and carry documentation from the best vets in the cities where they have lived. Their owner says: They cannot possibly have rabies

Because Monte and Carlo are small they can be taken on a plane as hand luggage'

and there is no oeed for them to be punished by quarantine." He is happy to obey the 30-day home quarantine laws that New Zealand enforces, "It seems like a good medium. You can monitor your pet at home. It's not as though you wouldn't take it to the vet if it became ill." The system operates on a principle of trust, in which owners must ensure that the animal does not leave their

property for a month. Monte and Carlo would be welcomed in Sweden where quarantine laws have been scrapped in favour of animal passports" that show that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies, leptospirosis, distemper (for

UK was the fact that he dogs), has been dewormed, would have to pay £3,000 to and is registered with the Swedish International Traf-fic Veterinary Control (ITVC). If Swedes wish to take their pet to any country other than the UK, then the passport information will be

enough to ensure access.

Non-Swedes wishing to bring their pet into the country must show a vaccination record, and the animal must bear an identity tag, in the form of a microchip or a tattoo. Swedish Customs then enter the number into the database. and the computer will show whether the animal can enter the country.

The Swedes make no claims that the system is not bureaucratic. Suzanne Eliasson of the ITVC says: There are many import rules to fulfil and many questions from importers and it is true that it is easier to run a quarantine system. However, we have a well-staffed telephone helpline at the Ministry of Agriculture."
A real benefit is that the system also pays for itself by the imposition of an administrative fee. This costs 400 Krone (£38.46) for up to ten animals compared with £1,500 to keep one animal in quarantine in the UK.

Mr Gilmour says that he is regularly approached by animal smugglers, who will illegally take your animal into the UK for £500 each. "With a passport system, nobody would want to do this," he says. "Who in their right mind would entrust their pet to a smuggler when they would only have to pay an administrative charge? However, with quarantine costs, such smuggling is far more likely — £1,500 is a lot



Bureaucracy for pets travelling to countries apart from Britain is minimal if they have inoculation certificates

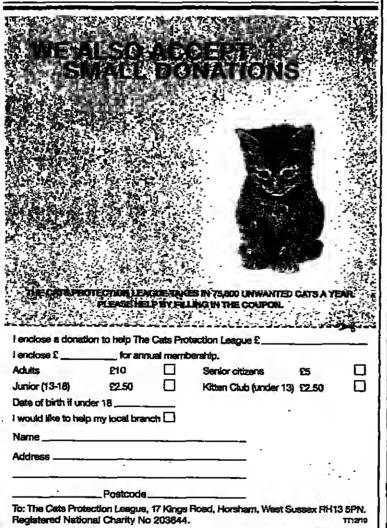
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IN THE past ten years more than 150 thousand cows have developed BSE developed this disease after eating cattle cake containing meat and bone meal derived from sheep with scrapie - a spongiform encephalopathy known for at least 200 years. The disease had "jumped the species barrier". Which posed the question - if it went from sheep to cattle

where else could it go? In April 1989 pet food makers stopped using offal that included potentially infective BSE material. This specified bovine offal (SBO), which is brain, spinal chord, spleen, thymus, tonsils and intestines, was banned from use in human food in November 1989. Pets were

A VET WRITES

protected before people. Before 1986. scientists and doctors recognised encephalopathies in mink and leline SE has been found in 72 cars, all born prior to 1989. No one has found encaphalopathy in dogs. A few zoo animals were infected perhaps because they were fed on infected sheep or cattle heads.

Cattle cake may have transmitted BSE to elans, oryx and kudu - relatives of our domestic ruminants. All 200 animal infections also occurred before 1989, the

Good quality dog or cat food from one of the "big name" manufacturers is the best way of feeding your pet. That's what I am doing. Do it yourself beef-free diets

are quite likely to lead to deficiencies and create extra problems.

The BSE panic has made British beef the safest in the world — whether it is prime steak or something in a carton or suspect bits have been removed for incineratioo before anybody - human or pet - gets near them. Beef used in pet foods has to reach standards that would

make it fit for human consumption. My dog is having canned food and her daily bone. I am eating beef - medical rare. Not as overdone as the BSE hysteria. Perhaps the best way to restore confidence in British beef is to tell the rest of the world "if you want the best and safest beef, buy British."

JAMES ALLCOCK

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RUTH GLED+

Something for a country seat

Antiques: tips for happy hunting

hatever their approach, the antique desired proach, the an-tique dealer is not your friend. They know exactly what every-thing is, and the price the market will stand when they sell it. Thus, bargains are rare. There are, of course,

exceptions. Very often a specialist dealer, in the course of huying privately, will be offered things outside their particular expertise. In this way I was able to buy a very fine piece of needlepoint from a woman who deals in English ceramics. She thought it a good piece but it was of little use to her and she was delighted to sell it to me at a profit for £50.

I recognised it as the seat of a late-18th century side chair. The large red and yellow flowers on a fawn ground were worked in wool in tent and cross-stitch. It is likely that this piece was worked by the mistress of the house and her daughters. In the 18th century, chairs were often made to fit seats, ascovers took much longer to complete than a set of chairs.

All restoration is expen-sive, particularly textiles. Had this piece fitted an existing chair or stool, it might have been worth patching, but as it was, there was enough to make a very fine cushion. Professional textile conservators will regale you with the horrors of doing

anything yourself — can-vas that disintegrates, shrinkage, the lot The Victoria and Albert museum will offer advice, ring them for details (0171-938 8422). I had the needlework backed with calico by Corynna Bridgwood (0181-878 4907) for £25. This prepares it for the rigours of drawing room life. I did not dare wash it so I vacuumed it through

stery attachment. Modern fringes are expensive, but there is little wastage. Antique trim is more authentic but it is hard to find. I went to Maryln Garrow (0181-392 1655) where I found three yards of 19th-century fringe at £20 a yard. She also had a 18th-century green velvet for the back-

muslin with an uphol-

I had a pad made (£23) — pads should be an inch larger than the finished cushion so that it looks nice and full. I took everything to Diana Clement (018i-549 0137), who has great experience in making up antique cushioos and who charged me £30.Total cost £213.

Resisting all thoughts of how nice it looked in our drawing room. I rang an interior decorator who bought it for £325. History does not relate how much he charged his American client.

> **NICHOLAS** COURTNEY

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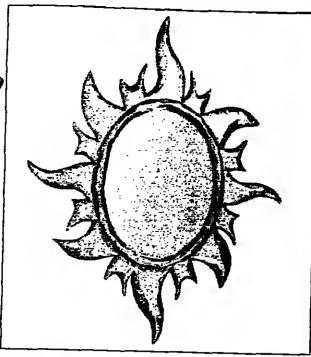
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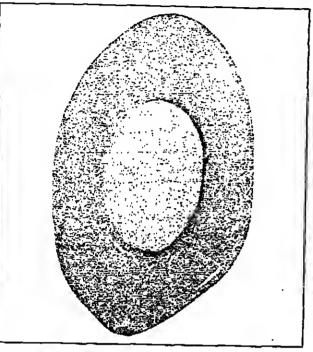
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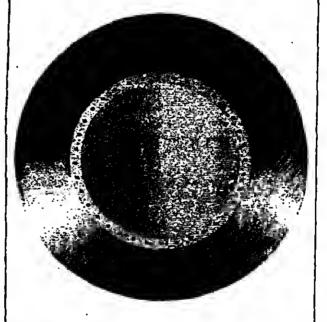
CECILIA MIRROR The Cecilia mirror is one of a wide range by designers Hampshire and Dillon, available in gold only (£99) from the Furniture Union



MERCURY MIRROR Charlotte Packe's mercury mirrors are made from resin and stone dust. They range from £55 for the small mirror to £220 for the larger ilable from the Furniture Union (0171-287 3424).



THE SWIMMER This mirror (£150) is available from Polly Pollard, who designs glass and acrytic mirrors in her Spitalfields shop and also works to designs provided by her customers (0171-375 3283).

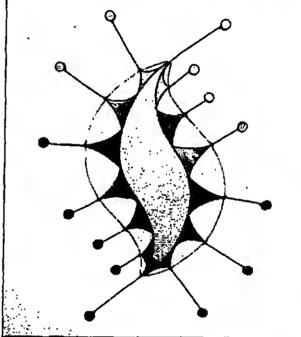


Time for reflection for Doris Nolan and Katharine Hepburn in the 1938 comedy Holiday. Until recently mirrors were purely functional; now they can also be works of art

Here's looking at you

Mirrors as art? AMANDA LOOSE enters a looking-glass world of bold new designs and style statements

GIANT SILVER DOT This futuristic-looking mirror (£155), made from aluminium, is also available in brass for £189. Smaller versions of both mirrors are stocked at £69.95. (Heals: 0171-636 1666)



THE ATOM MIRROR This splendidly distinctive and unusual mirror (£161) is by glass design specialist Diaphanous Glass and is available from Purves & Purves (0171-580 8223).

mirror with gold-painted metal squares, based on a plaster frame, for £205. (Graham & Green, 0171-727 4594). RUTH GLEDHILL gives thanks for all things fishy Harvest of the seas



MOSAIC MIRROR

months before the event. And so it turned out. The front eotrance to the church in the narrow backstreet of the City of London was

Graham & Green have opted for the classical look: a mosaic

closed, but a faint quivering of the nostrils and I realised that we should dive around the corner, where a shoal of pretty girl choristers in deep ocean blue told us where to weigh anchor. This was the City's annual fish harvest festival, still going strong despite the migration of the Billingsgate fish market downstream to near Canary Wharf. An array of fish made eyes at us from the aromatic display in the porch of St Mary at Hill, the church of the Watermen and Lightermen company. The fish has been a symbol of Christian-

fishers of men. It became an early symbol of Christ because the letters of the Greek word for fish, ichthus, are an acronym of the initial letters of the Greek words for Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour. In the early, per-secuted church, a fish

symbol on doorways would indicate to insiders a place of Christian worship. It quickly became linked especially to the Latin church. where for centuries it has been a tradition to eat fish on Fridays.

British governments have at various times sught to create other fish fivs besides Fridays, as a ploy to help the fishing industry. Today, anyone stuck behind a car with a fish symbol on the bumper knows that the driver in front is an evangelical. "We praise Thee, Lord.

THOUGHT there was Who bid'st us reap, The harvest of the sea," something fishy about an we sang, in one of two hymns written invitation to a service six especially for the fish market, fishermen and fishmongers. "Just as the sea at Thy command, Yields up to us its shoals, So we must bring, O Lord, to Thee, The harvest of our souls." Our reading, from Genesis, celebrated the creation of beaven, the earth and the seas in between. There was a prayer written for Billingsgate market Come among these thy servants who toil beside our river day by day to provide food for their fellow men". There was a prayer for seafarers, lighthouse keepers, port pilots, fishing fleets and dock and harbour workers, as well as a harvest thanksgiving. Our sermon was preached by one of the

church's "flying bishops", appointed to look after traditionalists opposed to women priests, and whom I shall forever think of now as the "flying fish bishop". ity since Jesus urged his disciples to leave their boats and become

The Right Rev Edwin Barnes, Bishop of Richborough, described

how he grew up in a fishing port, Plymouth, and how his last "honest job" before AT YOUR SERVICE beginning his ascent of the ecclesiastical hierarchy was A five-star guide 🖈 RECTOR: The Ven Dr Brian as vicar of Hessle, Hull. He Kirk-Duncan referred to those thrown out ARCHITECTURE: Rebuilt of work in the various along Byzantine lines by Sir traumas the fishing in-Christopher Wren after the dustry has experienced, to the limits on catches im-Great Fire, and partly restored after serious fire posed by European policy. damage again in 1988. Light "We thank God for the harvest. But we should

MUSIC: Hooked and landed above all ask for wisdom to by the angelic voices of choir weigh the present against from Malvern Girls' College, Worcestershire. ** future profit," he said. The fish in the porch were LITURGY: From 1662 Book to be donated to the Salvation Army old people's homes. As we left, I turned of Common Prayer. *** SPIRITUAL HIGH: A service to bind the restless wave and to look at one particularly round and succulent specicalm the mighty ocean men, and could bave sworn deep. **

and spacious. **

the old trout winked. AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Best to date. Mouthwatering • St Mary at Hill Church, St smoked salmon sandwiches, Mary at Hill, London EC3 8EE (0171-626 4184). and fresh orange juice or champagne. ★★★★

Suddenly you're back at school'

hether one's school-days were pure hell, a chilly frisson, of or (as many an the Bad Attitude Etonian has discovered to his cost) such perfect bliss that nothing in later life can ever match the experience, the great thing about them is that they are over. Or so we think, until parenthood brings us nose-to-nose with the experience for the second

The first of many rude educational shocks to strike in our bouse came when my son was a couple of years old. Congratulating myself on my superhuman efficiency, I started to ring around the local schools with a view to putting his name down for the impossibly distant day when he might be old enough to learn something. How old did you say he is? said several school sec-retaries, with barely-concealed derision. Oh no, dear, I'm afraid our lists for his age group have been closed for

quite some time now. An event that had been a vague dot on the horizon swiftly turned into an overwhelming obsession. Should I move house? Convert to Roman Catholicism? And what advice does one give a three-year-old who is about to be assessed for a place at nursery school by a formidably corseted person in twinset and pearls?

Parents, I rapidly discovered, were firmly shown the door at these interviews, so I took to giving my son the third degree in the car on the way home.
Did you tell her about

your reading? And how you can count up to ten? What did she ask you?" "Nothing languor about everything interesting," said Alexander most important to us. languor about clothes languor about everything even notice the change of languor about clothes languor about clothes

schooldays such a trial for everyone involved.

The day that the letter arrived offering him a place at the exthe hill is fixed in my memory almost as clearly as the day he was born. Oh thank God, said I. Phew what a relief. Now I can relax. I had, however, reckoned without the Other Mum-

They had been, the Other Mummies of my acquaintance, a stalwart bunch during the dismal period when we were all trying to find a startingplace for our

children on the Long Road That Leads to the Glittering Prizes of Academe. Daily we would ring each other to exchange scholastic horror stories with grim relish. We go back, my fellow-mothers and I, a long way. All the way back to the

fourth form, in some cases. Together we had learned to replace our pre-pubescent competitiveness ("What did you get in French?" "Ninety-three per cent, actually. What about you?" "Oh, 97 per cent, actually ...") with a laboriously acquired super-cool

PERSONAL

BY JANE SHILLING



('This old thing? It's only the Charlie season-before-last's Nicole school. Farhi ...); about our love affairs (The thing is, I'm not even sure if I really want to

be married").

n due course, we were even cool about child-birth (Well, it is fairly ghastly but he seems to have all his arms and legs in the

right places ...").
So ingrained had this habit of self-deprecation become that at first, I didn't

of days into the term, to find out how everyone else's first day had gone ("Did he cry? And what about you?" "Oh. absolute floods as soon as I got back to the car

..."), I found my-self having the same curious conversation with everyone I

Describing Alexander's mortifying (al-though tem-porary, I trust) habit of beginning each new day at school in a state of complete emotional collapse, I would pause for some answering vi-gnette, only to hear, in tones where pity was irritatingly min-gled with selfsatisfaction, that

Schooldays: hell first and second time around Flavia and Johnny and and Jake loved "Simply can't wait to get

there in the mornings," confided one mother, formerly the most languid of us all: "I find him standing by the front door with his little satchel in his hand, saying 'I'm going to learn something new today, Mummy'.
Well, of course, he was just
ready for a new challenge. I do think it's awful the way the ones who find it more of a struggle get labelled cry-

reading coming along?"
"Reading?" said I (prevented by force of habit from boasting that that very evening my offspring had read in a clear and intelligible voice several sentences from The Tale of Samuel Whiskers, and at the same time had volunteered, unprompted by me, the information that the French for rat was rat), "I don't think they do much reading yet. As far as I can tell he spends record his time either and a spends." most of his time sitting under the desk with his hands over his eyes."

y friend replied in tones of deepest concern. Oh no! But that's awful. I know how keen you were to send him to a state school, but perhaps you ought to start thinking about remedial teaching. I mean. Flavia's already reading aloud from Beatrix Potter - and you know how diffi-cult she is. All that stuff about goffering. And she's showing an interest in French We're a bit worried that she might be seriously gifted. Such a responsibility, having an outstandingly intelligent child. They get so

easily bored, you know . . . " With difficulty, I prevented myself from replying that, although Alexander might be a halfwit, it was a great comfort to know that at least he was unlikely to find himself much troubled by

ennui. But the awful truth was plain to see: just when you think you're properly grown-up, you find yourself back in the playground, with all its attendant terrors and humiliations undiminished by the passage of time.

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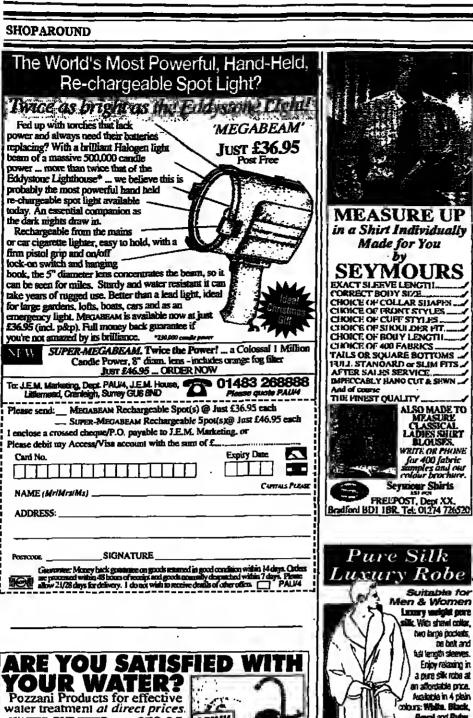
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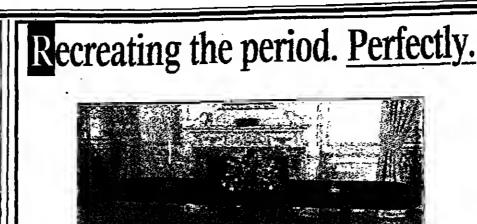
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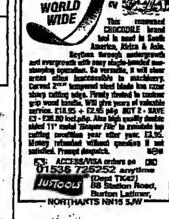
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Vernon Coleman is the UK's leading medical author and campaigning journalist. He has a string of bestsellers to his name and his books are sold in their millions around the world. He scours the world's medical journals and tibraries to bring you invaluable information that could dramatically improve the quality of your life. Here are extracts from jost a few of the many thousands of readers' letters sent to this office:

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cise control of a billiard shot. PRECISION RANGING

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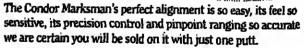
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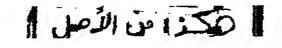
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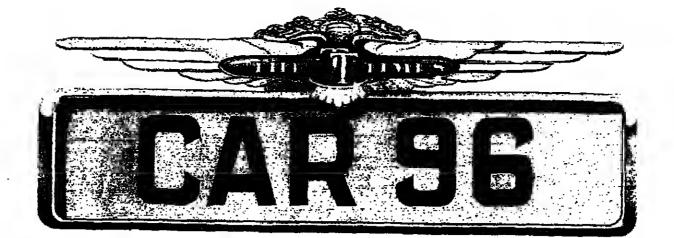
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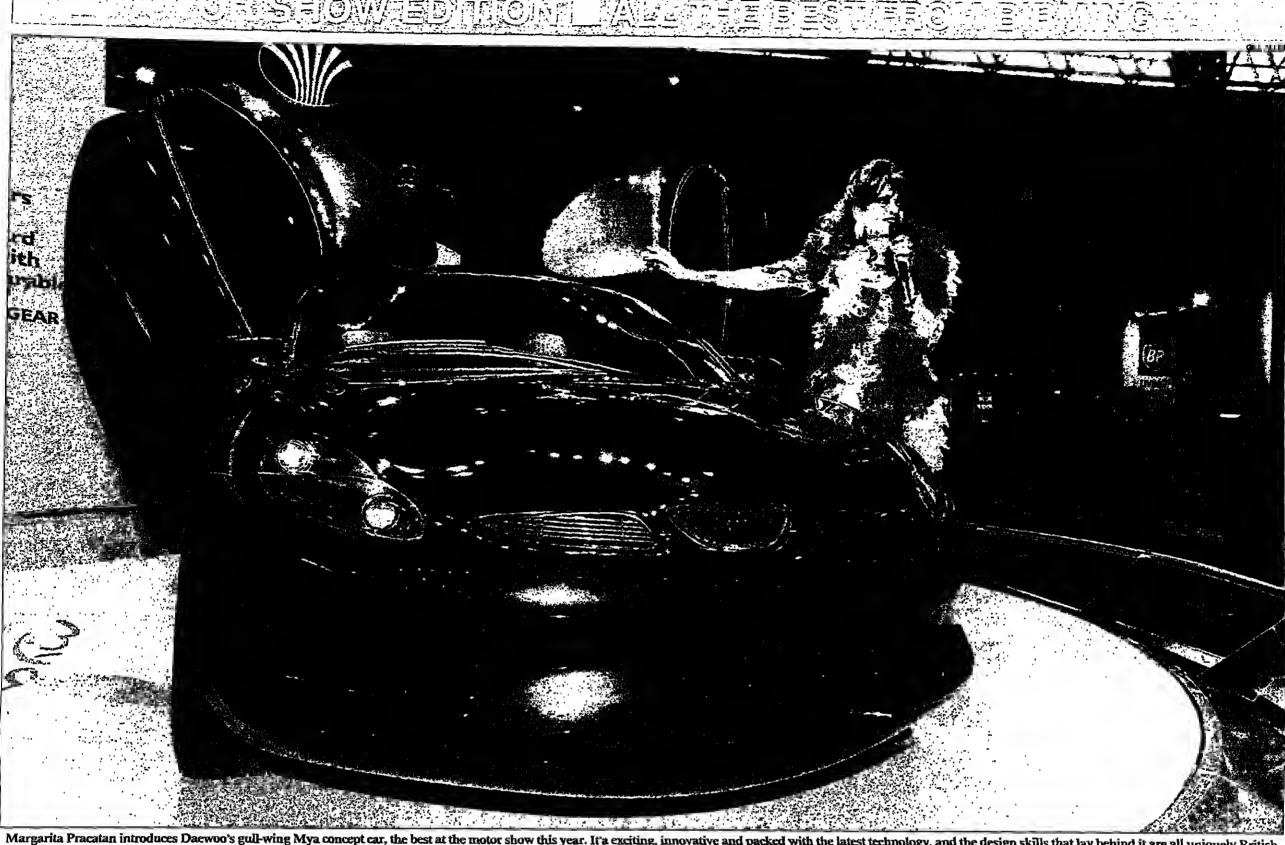
The real cost of motoring past and present Page 2



Lifting the veil on a car of the future Page 10



SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 1996



Margarita Pracatan introduces Daewoo's gull-wing Mya concept car, the best at the motor show this year. It'a exciting, innovative and packed with the latest technology, and the design skills that lay behind it are all uniquely British

The future: from Worthing, via Korea

loaded with new technology: the best concept car at the motor show this week might have a foreign badge but the brains behind it are all Brirish, writes Vaughan Freeman.

The gull-wing Mya 2+2 sportster is a car of the future from Daewoo. the controversial South Korean bargain-basement sales in this country. But the Mya was conceived and

born not on the other side of the globe in Seoul, but amid the cosy and very English setting of Worthing in West Sussex, where tea and retirement are usually higher on the agenda than cutting-edge automotive design.

For the West Sussex coast town is where Daewoo has its Technical Centre, its European design headadquarters where 900 designers and engineering staff, connected via a warehouse-sized room of computers, keeps in touch with the global Daewoo empire.

Their brief is to ensure Daewoo stays not only in touch, but one step ahead of the latest styling trends

sweeping the important British and European markets. So committed is Daewoo to its British team that it is spending E30 million to expand

the plant.
What is it though about the British psyche that makes them into such sought-after designers? Jim Mason, managing director of the centre, says: "As part of Diewood global strategy the com-pany needs experience in Western automotive design and engineering, which is why the company hought this centre, which was then owned by Internacional Automotive Design.

Daewoo cannot attack world markets from a domestic Korean base, which is why we are their main design centre outside South Korea. I think the British have an open-minded approach. One of the things about British designers is that they are very flexible and creative, and have an ability to consider different ways of doing

They are also very enthusiastic about the product from a practical point of view. The Brits like to get their hands on the bits and pieces

instead of sitting in a sterile office in cars in Britain, before moving to front of their computer design Germany to work for Porsche, then workstations."

Prime example of that design flexibility is senior designer, Brian Osborn, who came up with the flowing, fluid exterior of the Mya. A graduate of Coventry Polytechnic, he joined the Worthing Centre when it was still IAD. In his time he has worked on everything from the design of aircraft seats to motorcycles in India, crash helmets, handheld computers. London buses, Zanussi washing machines, as well

as cars and trucks.

Osborn says: "It is not just in automotive design. You will see Briosh dominance too in things like graphic design. One factor might be that in Britain it is OK to be a

non-conformist." Cindy Charwick designed the Mya interior, and Ginger Ostle, Daewoo's chief designer, believes British encouragement of the individual, as opposed to the attitude in Japan and other Asian countries where nails that stand proud have to be banged flat to the wall,

contributes to that inventiveness. Ostle, who worked for Triumph

for Mazda before he joined Dacwoo, agrees that Britain leads in car design, but that this ingenuity is only matched by the peculiarly British failure to recognise the skills and abilities of its home-

grown designers.

says: "That was one of the reasons why I left this country and worked for Porsche for 16 years". Ostle, who commutes regularly back and forth from Worthing to his German home, says: "Travel 20 miles across the Channel and designers from Brit-ain can double their money elsewhere in Europe. Something that continually surprises me, despite it being a smaller and smaller world, is that the understanding of different cultures is still surprisingly naive and lacking elsewhere, espe-

cially in Asian companies." Asian and Japanese firms, he says, concentrate primarily on the demands of their domestic customers, so that their cars for Europe and America suffer. That is not the

case in Europe generally, and in Britain in particular, "Until recently the UK was the best place to learn automotive skills," Ostle adds. Schools such as London's Royal College of Art led the field though things are changing. "Until the rest of the world discovered those British institutions and started sending their people to and then went abroad to use the skills they had been taught.

The British it seems are encouraged to be creative, to be individuals. It is a stimulating culture here, a very stimulating environment, as opposed perhaps to Asian cultures where the group culture prevails, or California where the stereotypes are stifling,

The lack of recognition clearly rankles though. He says: "We can justifiably pat ourselves on the back and say: 'Aren't we brilliant'. But it would be great if that brilliance was exploited in the country of origin, and it was not left to foreigners to exploit it."

The Worthing team hopes the Mya will win at least some of the recognition they feel is their due.



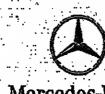
The Mya makes up in innovation and content what it lacks in name appeal (a Mya apparently is a South American clam shell and the car, like the shell, is supposed to cocoon the occupants). The doors sweep up and out, fitting snugly into deep scoops in the roof.

allowing front and rear passengers easy access.

The interior is arresting. Among the goodies for rear-seat passengers is a pop-up video games unit. Powered by a 2-litre, 16valve 130bhp engine, the Mya is vastly different from most prototype concept cars in that it does work, since it is based around the fully working running gear from forthcoming Daewoo cars.

Will it make it into production? Ginger Ostle, chief designer, says:
"I think there are features in the Mya that are positive, and recognition from the public at the motor show would help. If reaction to the Mya is favourable, it would be stupid to ignore it."

Forget when it was built. Consider who built it.



The industry's annual beano is not for the public, neither does it have much to do with the real world, although it does keep the hacks fed and watered

And after all that, it's just for show

indication that cars designed with more sympathy for struggle in a man's world when I switched on the BBC television news the other night to hear this introduction for an item about the new, smaller Land Rover. "Stand by for son of Land Rover."

Son of Land Rover? Designed for women? A daughter would be more sensible in the circumstances, but of course the shrunken Land Rover will not just be aimed at women. It is not even designed as a vehicle the public is crying out for. It is really designed so that Land Rover has something to announce at the Motor Show.

As we have seen this week, the Motor Show as a concept is very odd indeed. I am all for these events, as they enable journalists

DRIVENTO DISTRACTION



to prove that there really is such a thing as a free lunch. And of course we get to sit in fancy cars without having to fork out fanciful

amounts of money.

But the curiosity of this or any other motor show is that it attracts huge numbers of ordinary people

without actually being designed for ordinary people. The public, if the truth be told, are somewhat of a nuisance, for they tend to get in the way of the television cameras.

They also bave a habit of treading on the feet of eager fleet are really all about. At the end of the show there is always an announcement about orders placed, running to mind-boggling millions of pounds. If the sums add up at all, they add up to an awful lot of wooing of fleet buyers. The noticeable thing this year, at

least as far as the media coverage is concerned, is the widespread use of the words "small" and "smaller". Not only is there the smaller Land Rover, there is also the small Ford Ka (a daft name) and the little battery-powered Peugeot.

I can just about see the case for

and handy for parking around town, though the latter half of that argument is not exactly overwhelming. Nearly all in-town parking areas these days are divided into bays, either on the street or in a multi-storey, so that the actual size of the car is largely

smaller cars: they are economical

The Peugeot is intriguing. though, for it appeals to the right-on types who have convinced themselves that cars would be perfectly all right if only they did less harm to the environment. They like the sound of a car that makes no noise.

Unfortunately, battery technology, though fast improving, has

not yet reached the point where it is the answer to all our prayers. Not the least of the problems lies in a piece of information that scientists came up with a year or two

The essence of what they found was that if one was to convert all the cars in London to run on batteries, a factory would need to

be built outside the capital which made the batteries. And in making the batteries, the factory would pour out as much pollution as would all the cars in London if they still ran on petrol and diesel.

And most banery-driven cars, including the Peugeot, run for about 40 oiles before they need recharging. This is good news for the people who sell us electricity, who will be able to use even more power station capacity and pump out even more polluoon. What we really need is power stations that run on batteries, except that ... you see what I mean.

All of which suggests that we are some distance from becoming a nation of electric-car drivers. Even if that day arrives, there will be a great panic about pedestrians being mown down in their thousands because they could not hear us coming. At which point all the cars will have to be fitted with a machine that plays the noise of an

The Birmingham Motor Show is a splendid institution and long may it flourish. But let us not deceive ourselves: as far as the ordinary driver is concerned, the show has similar qualides to synchronised swimming. It is entertaining, but meaningless.

Is the Ford now more affordable?

Remember the good old days when you could buy a

family car and still have enough change from a tanner to buy some lard? Stuart Birch looks at the real costs

The words roll off the tongues of a myriad motor industry executives and salespeople. especially around motor show time. We are told that a car is "value for money", that it is "a bargain, a snip, a steal".

Sometimes, that much-abused word "affordable" sounds like a bad joke. But despite price tags that may look daunting, a comparison gests that many new family cars today offer fine value.

We have all heard parents and grandparents saying, "I remember when you could buy a new Ford for a hundred pounds." But rarely do they mention how much they earned at the time. in 1936, Ford, concerned that sales of its 8HP Model Y were slipping, boosted them dramatically by offering the car at exactly £100.

According to the Office for National Statistics, average weekly earnings for 1936 were £3.90 per week - £202.80 a year. A typical car worker was paid even less: The Economist records a figure of £180 a year for 1938, although a senior civil servant (Assistant Secretary Grade 5) would have received £1,300. So even a lowly Ford 8 with no heater, a top speed of 59mph, threespeed gearbox, rod-operated brakes and suspension like a bouncy castle still represented half a year's pay for most

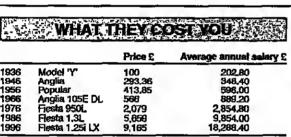
people.

My father bought a used Model Y; he called it "the rattletrap". There was no radio but entertainment was never in short supply; the sixvolt electrics would often fail to start the 933cc engine in cold weather so he would be out there whirling the starting handle. Deep puddles were best avoided, as water often spuried in through the hole in the floor for the handbrake.

From its curly bumpered stem to its rubbery stern (the spare wheel was mounted at the rear; there was no boot) the Ford 8, was just basic

After World War II, a new Ford Anglia (Britain's cheap-est car) could have been

1 3



stery, ashtrays and exterior mirror. Options included a radio and seatbelts. Price:

£566, average wage in 1966, £17.10 a week, £889.20 a year.

Then in 1976 came the big

step in the small-car league:

the front-wheel-drive Fiesta.

Even the basic "L" model was

good for 82 mph. Standard

equipment included front disc

brakes, radial tyres, folding

rear seats, two-speed wipers.

heated rear window and

seatbelts. Price; £2,079, aver-

age national wage had jumped to £54.90 a week, £2.854.80 a

year. The car again cost just

over two-thirds of a year's

Ten years on, though, as

Fiesta 1.3L had soared to

then had soared to £189.50 a

week, £9,854 a year, making

the car look good value.

And so to the current Fiesta.

Fitted with the excellent 1.25-

litre Zetec-SE engine, it is good for 106mph and gets to 60 in

11.9 seconds, says Ford. At 75mph it will do 41.5 mpg.

Standard equipment of the LX

version includes driver's

airbag, seatbelt grabbers, rear

seatbelts, engine immobiliser, four-speaker radio-cassette

player, driver's seat-tilt adjust-

Things were looking better.

Source: Office for National Statistics, The Economist, Ford Motor Co.

bought for £293.36 in 1946. It visors, two-colour PVC upholhad the same 933cc 23.4bhp engine as the 8, but managed 60 mph. Standard equipment included: sun visor (one), felt floor mats, cloth upholstery: indicators were an option. Average pay had risen to £6.70 a week - £348.40 a year - so the Anglia was seriously

decade on and Ford's range began with the Popular at £413.85, the engine was 1172cc and power a heady 30bhp. Top speed was 60.3 mph and 0-50 took 24 seconds. mpg was typically in the mid-30s. This was still basically a prewar. design complete with singleblade vacuum-operated windscreen wiper which all but stopped when the car accelerated hard. Options included joy of joys - a heater direction technology: a windscreen washer.

rolling in - £598 a year before tax. The price of the car was still well over two-thirds of the

The next ten years saw significant changes. Prime Minister Harold Macmillan said Britain had never had it so good, and cars started to become far more civilised. quicker and more interesting. The 1966 Anglia 105E de Luxe, with its high-revving 997cc 39bhp engine could reach 73.5 mph and scorch to 60 mph in 15.6 seconds. The gearbox was "four-speed close-ratio". The

inflation stoked up, the price of £5,659, but it did have a fivespeed gearbox and top speed of 101 mph. Servo brakes had licators and some advanced become standard, as had reversing lights, halogen head-lamps, electric screen-washer, electronic ignition, and push-By then, an average wage earner had E11.50 a week button radio. Average wage by

ment and sunroof. Price: £9,165 — but the Fiesta can be had from £7,645 with the older £3 engine. Average weekly wage before tax is now £351.70: £18.288.40 a Anglia had manual plunger screenwashers, self-cancelling flasher indicators, two sun year. But new to the equation is the chirpy little Ka at £7,350 in standard form, £8,195 with such goodies as power steering with faner tyres, radio and What emerges is that the price of the Model Y of 1936 represented about half the annual average wage, and today's Fiesta LX does much

> But in terms of safety, comfort, performance, economy and value for money on a cost-to-national-average earnings rado, the Fiesta is our of sight of the crude Y model.
> As the golden oldies are fond of saying: "Cars aren't what they used to be." Thank



Ford boosted sales of its 8hp Model Y dramatically in 1936 by selling the car for £100



The company's Fifties Popular was still basically a prewar design with added extras



The 1966 Anglia 105E de Luxe could scorch - by the standards of the day - to 60mph



The big step in the small-car league came in 1976 with the front-wheel-drive Fiesta

Rolls-Royce price changes over the years

Being rich now costs less

AND NOW FOR the really good news. At the top end of the market the real price of a car has diminished quite significantly. Out of sheer curiosity, we asked Rolls-Royce how their prices had fared since 1936. This

was their reply.

A 1936 Rolls-Royce Phantom 111 had a chassis price of £1.850. Typically, there would be an extra £700-£300 for the body or coachwork, adding up to a total cost of around £2,600. That would have been 12.82 years' toil for the average worker.

A 1936 Rolls-Royce 20/30 had a chassis price of El.100 and the body/coachwork would have amounted to about £1.650 - 8.14

years' work.

Coming right up to date, a 1996 Rolls-Royce Park Ward Limousine is £210,853, a hefty 11.53 years' work at average current pay rates. But a 1996 Rolls-Royce Silver Dawn is £118.557, representing a trifling 6.48 years' work at current rates.

So, on the basis of these silly sums, the time needed to earn enough to buy a Rolls-Royce is diminishing in theory, at least, one day far in the future, we might all be able to

Liquid assets that measure up to petrol

Robert Richardson on the cost of fuel compared to other fluids

tremely annoyed at the prospect of paying the equivalent of 25p for a gallon of petrol. Muttering imprecations against all things Italian, hastily drove back across the border into Switzerland ... where it cost an acceptable 22p

Poor, naive fool. This month The Times reported that in some parts of Britain petrol now costs £3 a gallon. But the thought occurs that other things come in liquid form and how much do they cost? With the aid of some higher mathematics to convert from metric, the results are interestlected from a supermarket shelf, national averages supplied by Sainsbury or from other named sources.

Coca-Cola at 59.5p a litre works out to £2.70 a gallon and milk is only marginally more expensive if you pay the National Dairy Council's average UK price of 38p a pint, £3.04 a gallon. Pausing only to sample Sainsbury's ownbrand ice cream (vanilla flavour) at 34.5p a litre, or £1.56 for a gallon scoop, we move onwards — and definitely upwards.

If Renault's Nicole wants to use Perrier water (retail price 72p for 75ml, which means 1.04 a litre), she will have to pay £4.72 for a gallon. Papa, who's always struck me as the G&T type, may prefer to add tonic water to his tank, which at 85p a litre will cost him £3.86.

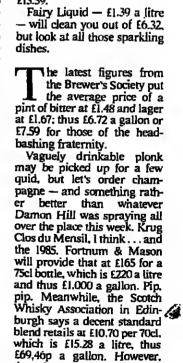
A good virgin olive oil (£6.99 a litre) will set you back £31.77 for a gallon; Del Monte orange juice and Ribena cost the same as tonic water; and, at £2.99 a litre, one of those hair shampoos with added condi-

DERROGER

LINNESS

Beer works out at over

twice the price of petrol



Milk costs the same, but is

no good for the engine

tioner means parting with

10.75

1 Charles

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M 75- --

gallon, you would need a But instead of an arm and a leg, how about blood? The National Blood Service sells its product for about £45 for 450ml; a neat £100 a litre, coming to £454 per gallon after which you would defi-nitely need a cup of tea and a hiscuit to recover.

they also turned up a 50-year-old Glenfiddich — at £6,250 a

bottle, which means £8,928 a

litre. After paying £40,586 for a

ut all these pale into Bapologetic insignifi-cance when we reach the perfume counter at Harrods, where, exclusive to that store, we can buy Amouage at £2,500 for 10ml. That's not a misprint, and it means £250,000 a litre - £1.13

million a gallon.

One should add that it does not come in a plastic bottle, but in a silver case coated in 24carat gold with a semi-precious stone inset - but that would rattle around in the

And don't forget that, whatever you pay for your gallon of leaded petrol, 177,84p plus 17.5 per cent VAT goes to those nice



Today's Fiesta LX costs as much as its Model Y ancestor goodness.

ER 19 1996

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MOTOR SHOW

Where British beef still sells best

they crouch on the smaller stands, frequently in lurid me-tatlic shades of purple or blue, often adorned by bosomy models in deliberate defiance of political correctness. But these are the real British success stories of the show, writes Alon Copps,

The new Jaguar XK8 has automatic transmission as standard, the Ferrari 550 Maranello boasts traction con-trol and the Mercedes SLK is one of the most refined cars on show. But a small band of British makers now specialises in supplying no-compromise sports cars worldwide and for most, business is booming.

TVR took three orders for its new supercar, codenamed project 12/7, within hours of unveiling it, even though its 7lure VI2 engine is yet to run. A development of the company's successful V8, the new unit in unrestricted form will produce

an astonishing 660 bhp. The car is intended for racing but is designed to be driven to the track. Its interior, dominated by the roll cage essential for a racing car, is spartan and noise levels will be high. Its aggressive styling is dictated by the need for

OPENINGS

the NEC, Birminghom until next Sunday. Adults £9, children ond pensioners E5, car parking E5. Box office: 0121-780 4133.

downforce and a powerful airflow at high speeds. It is the company's first car to feature Formula One-style carbon disc brakes and is expected to cost well over £100,000.

TVR is committed to running a two-car team in the BPR Global GT race series next year and may take it to the Le Mans 24-hour race.

In the past two years TVR has doubled its workforce in Blackpool from 270 to 540. This year, it expects to make 1700 cars in Britain and probably 500 in Malaysia, an astonishing record for a company once associated with kit cars. Its own engine range is extended even further with a new sixcylinder unit being added to the Griffith range.

Another success story is the Caterham company who took over the manufacturing rights



TVR's new supercar, codenamed project 12/7, won three orders within hours of being unveiled, even though its 7-litre V12 engine is yet to run. It's designed for road and rac



Marcos's Mantis, left, is aimed at America. Caterham, above, has an anniversary Super Seven

to the original Lotus 7 in 1973. They are showing two new cars, the Anniversary, a special edition to mark the 40th year since the Lotus Super Seven made its debut at the Landon Motor Show and the Superlight, designed to drive like a racer but be road legal. Powered by a 1.6-litre Rover Kseries engine it will go from 0-60mph in 4.7 seconds (that's faster than a new Lotus Elise) and costs £17,495.

Graham Nearn, managing director of Caterham, said this

year the company is expecting to complete 650 cars against a predicted 580, half of them for export, with Japan the largest market. Another ten jobs are likely to be created at its Dartford, Kent, factory where it already employs 60 people,

and in addition the company will be opening next month a new showroom in Caterham, Surrey.
The Marcos company,

based in Westbury, Wiltshire, and once famous as the maker of a car with a plywood

AWARDS

Oh dear,

bad news

for Japan

assembly area into a dining

room so that Autocar could

hold its awards ceremony

there this week - and the

magazine didn't have the de-

cency to give the Jaguar boys a

Instead, the car of the year

show stands at the British

bly lines at Coventry for a sensible pie-and-two-veg dinner, followed up with rhubarb crumble and custard, to dis-

ers think about the cars they

the Autocar dinner were out of

THE JUDGES for Car

decided that the best car

of the year was the Elise from

Lotus, a model which also won

the award as the most innova-

Bruno Sacco, the designer, was voted best designer by his

Only the Japanese were truly miffed though — not a

single gong between them.

except for Honda, which won

Lemon of the Year for produc-

ing the Legend executive mod-

el, neither exciting to look at

or drive", said Car. So there.

Technical Award - Lotus

Special Merit - Chrysler

Best design - Renault

Manufacturer of the Year -

Autocar awards:

Megane Scenic

Audi

Best car -- Ford Ka

peers around the world.

THOSE WHO win are mightily relieved, but just to show that there is no

working on.

International Motor Show. Top motor industry nobs crowded between the assem-

gong for their new XK8.

How ungrateful can you

get? Jaguar converted its

chassis, also launched its new model, the Martis, developed

from the LM500 which won its class at Le Mans. Powered by a 4.9-litre V8 Shelby Ford engine, the car should help the company break into the American market. Jeremy Kearns, sales manager, said five orders had been placed the day the car was unveiled.

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The company's production and 100 cars but over the next three or four years, capacity

SHOW SHORTS

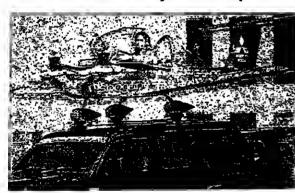
Stars sell cars

price, writes Kevin Eason.
Volvo wanted Val Kilmer to publicise their new coupé

who appeared for Daihatsu but disclosed he was buying a new Jaguar XK8, while Scat had one of those in his new film as the Saint by appearing on the motor show stand on press day. Rumours say the Swedes choked when Kilmer demanded \$1 million for the day's work.

Stars abounded nevertheless, expensively paid to attract attention, often to some less than starry cars: Noel Edmunds for Land Rover, Jeremy Clarkson for TVR and Bob Monkhouse, Wonderbra girls, whose name oobody can remember - but who needs to? Des Lynam was there.

but I can't remember why, and Margarita Pracatan, a formidable Latin lady, was on the Daewoo stand, being paid pots of money because she sings out of tune. Cao't understand that one: I sing badly out of tune and I would have done the job for half the price.



■ MITSUBISHI caused furrowed brows by announcing it had brought the world's smallest aircraft carrier to Britain. It turned out to be a Shogun 4x4 converted to carry a small French aerobatic plane. Unbelievably, the aircraft takes off from the roof. What will they think of next . . . and why?



There's no point in going to the motor show unless you can carry away a bag full of dreams. Of the best places g get one. Seat wins on capacity with a doubledepth plastic carrier, but first prize must go to Citroën for the sheer elan of this silver shoulder bag with fetching red string.

■ Things to do if you get bored looking at cars:
Make a bid for the classic
Le Mans-winning Bentley
"Old Number One", on the NGK Spark Plugs stand. Offers are invited in the region of £1.5million. That's

about £1.3million more

than any new Bentley. Get your shoes shined: if they are looking a bit scuffed after all that hiking round the halls, make for the accessories pavillion. A team of polishers on the stand of Renapur, makers of Leather Balsam, will happily demonstrate its polishing and waterproofing properties on your shoes.

■ GET A NEW insurance quote: after settling its problems with Names, Lloyd's of London is represented at the show for the first time. reminding visitors that it has 15 per cent of the British motor insurance market, twice as much as any rival.

Take up smoking: only if you are a registered puffer aged 18 plus can you enter the draw for a Renault Megane Coupé on the Rothmans Williams Renault stand, or for a free trip to the Italian Grand Prix with Marlboro McLaren.



Were they making way for Jaguar's much-lauded XK8, or just doing their own thing?

Aston runs its own show

One of the great names of British motoring is surprisingly absent from the show. But in a luxury complex on the other side of Birmingham from the National Exhibition Centre, Aston Martin has been staging a show of its own by invitation only writes Alan Copps.

At the Belfry Hotel, and

Golf Course, customers nominated by Aston Martin dealers have been able not just to view the cars but to be driven in them by staff from a school run by ex-racing driver Peter Gethin.

When the doors of the NEC opened on Tuesday, there was a certain amount of speculation about Aston Martin's absence. The company, after

all, is owned by Ford, which also owns Jaguar — and the Jaguar XK8 is the undisputed star of the show. Hardly a critic has raised a voice against the XKS, except for a few who have carped about its close resemblance to the much more expensive, but equally lauded, Aston Martin DB7. Had big brother Ford asked Aston Martin to leave the

Unfounded speculation, say

the people at Aston Martin's headquarters in Newport Pagnell Buckinghamshire This was a marketing and dealership decision. We decided this year to do things a little differently. At the Belfry we've got the same cars we

stage clear for Jaguar?

tive for its lightweight aluminium chassis and brakes. Ka did not even get a mention, while Mercedes but this way potential customers can be driven in them rather than just looking," said PR executive. Barbara Prince. I think it is quite a brave decision. Ten years ago we cleaned up with best-designed car for the SLK roadster, and

wouldo't have dared try such a thing, but now with the security of the Ford link we can try something different. There's certainly a place in the market for both cars, Jaguar are talking about producing 12,000 a year. We haven't made that many cars in our history.

Anyway the cars have already appeared side-by-side this year at the Geneva motor show." Aston Martin's private show also offers customers a free shuttle service across to



Ford's Ka won car of the year, at one ceremony at least

Car awards: Best car - Lotus Elise Most innovative - Lotus Elise Best design detail - Porsche Targa retractable glass roof Best engineer - Jean Baudin. Peugeot chassis Best engine - Jaguar XJ-V8

Best design - the Mercedes Best designer - Bruno Sacco. Mercedes Designer's designer - Bruno Sacco Lemon of the Year - Honda

WHAT'S NEW AT THE SHOW



The Mercedes-Benz SLK is on our must-see list

THERE ARE more new cars to see at the motor show than ever before. Sports cars litter the stands but there are models to suit every taste. So Car 96 has selected the essential cars to see.

SPORTS CARS: Jaguar XK8, Mercedes SLK roadster, Porsche Boxster, Lotus Elise, Ferrari 550 Maranello, BMW Z3 roadster, Plymouth Prowler, Caterham Anniversar 7. Mitsubishi 3000GT. Porsche GT1, Spectre R42, Marcos Mantis

PEOPLE-CARRIERS: Chrysler Voyager, Renault Espace, Mercedes V-class, Renault Megane Scenic, Seat Albambra,

Toyota Picnic, Vauxhall Sintra HATCHBACKS: Audi A3, Fiat Marea and Marea Weekend; Kia Mentor

MINIS: Daihatsu Move and Grand Move, Ford Ka, Rover Mini SALOONS: Alfa Romeo 155 TS 16v, BMW 520i. 540i. Ford Mondeo, Hyundai Sooata, Skoda Octavia, Toyota Camry, Volkswagen Passa COUPES: Honda Prelude, Hyundai Coupe. Peugeot 406, Proton Persona, Bentley Continental T. Seat Cordoba SX, Votvo C70 CONCEPTS: 2096 Slug, Alfa Romeo Nuvola. Dacwoo Mya, Citroën

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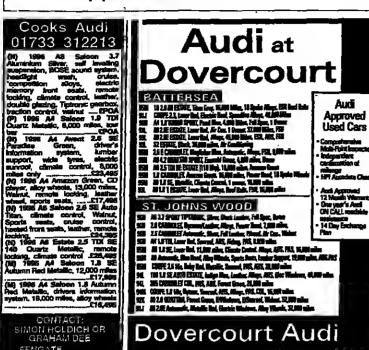
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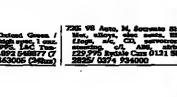
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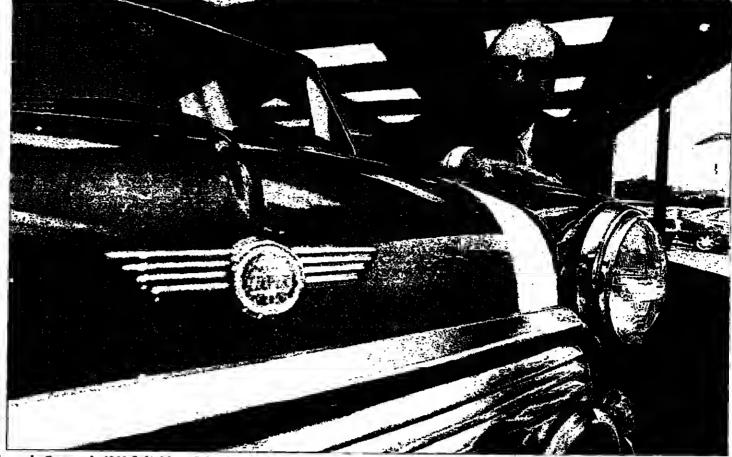
FOCUS ON CONVERTIBLES





R 19 1996





Jack Brabham takes the salute after winning his second World Championship in a Cooper-built Formula One car in 1960 (left). Now, John Cooper is set to inject new life under the Mini's bonnet in the shape of his latest "S" model

new generation of Mini Cooper S cars is to be born, according to John Cooper, the man who should know. Cooper developed one of the trendiest cars of the Sixties, the all-conquering Cooper S, yet, 30 years on, shows no signs of slowing down.

From his base in the unlikely setting of Ferring, a dot on the map close to the West Sussex coastal resort of Worthing, John Cooper still builds Cooper S cars for customers worldwide at the rate of

At the same time, he runs a major Honda franchise, a link that dates to the early 1960s when his Cooper Car firm effectively built Honda's first four-wheeled machine, a 1.5-litre Formula One car, at a time when the Japanese firm was building only motorcycles.

As the crowds flock to view the new Mini and Mini Cooper on the Rover stand at the British International Motor Show this week, the indefatigable Cooper will be busy finalising his plans to start turning the official Rover Mini Cooper into the Cooper S models which will go on sale early in the new year. Today his Cooper S cars cost £10,475, against £9,000 for the new Mini

Cooper, although his 1997 "S" is likely to be slightly dearer. The new Cooper S will be more

powerful, with 85hhp compared with the Rover Mini Cooper's 63bhp. and considerably faster, reaching 0-60mph in under ten seconds, with a top speed of around 100mph against 90mph. Key to the "S" allure will be the uprated acceleration thanks to a five-speed gearbox, and the distinctive hadging so reminiscent of the past

glories of British motor racing.
Although half of the 25,000 or so
Minis still sold each year by Rover
are Coopers, and the Mini Cooper racing heritage is second to none. the car was almost never born. Engineering genius and Mini in-ventor. Sir Alec Issigonis, did not believe a high-performance version

of his new baby would sell.

But John Cooper, whose CooperClimax cars took Jack Brabham to
the Formula One World Championship titles in 1959 and 1960, and whose Cooper Car company was once the world's largest builder of racing cars. had other ideas. He had met Sir Alec when the two were young men, racing their cars dragstrip style at the annual Madeira Drive seafront event in Brighton. They soon became firm friends.

Cooperman and the flying Mini

Mini, Sir Alec told his friend to take away a Mini and work on it, still to be convinced that more than a handful would sell, and highly sceptical that 1,000 customers could be found. One thousand sales was the magic figure that would enable the car to be homologated and thus become eligible for saloon car races and rallies.

The Mini was launched in 1959 and the Mini Cooper took to the road in 1961 with a tweaked Formula Junior racing version of the basic l-litre, A-series Mini engine (still used in vastly improved form in today's car) and with what were then considered the new-fangled disc brakes.

Faster and more powerful even than the Cooper was the Cooper S,

with 70bhp, and 1071cc, bred for racing and rallying, which arrived in 1963. A year later it took Paddy Hopkirk to the first of three Monte Carlo rally wins. There should have been four but the rally organisers, perhaps miffed that such a diminutive British car kept scooping all the silverware, deleted a fourth victory from the record books in a row over headlights.

n a deal agreed over a handshake, John Cooper got a £2 royalty for every Cooper version sold by BMC — the amalgam of Austin and Morris as well as money for parts and cars for his Cooper S racing stable. Despite Sir Alec's fears, the Cooper sold and sold, and by the time Lord Stokes killed the car off in 1971,

around 150,000 had been bought - at £2 a time for their originator.

Though corporate business killed off the Cooper, Cooper the man was considerably more difficult to put-down and it is largely thanks to John Cooper's persistence that today's Mini Cooper exists at all.

The cars he exported to the passionate Anglophile Japanese market convinced Rover executives in Japan to commission him to build a 1275cc Mini Cooper in big numbers. Rover here was wary, so he went ahead instead with 1,000cc tuning kits and eventually sold 1,500 of them. Even the crude crates in which the tuning kits were packed became objects of Cooperabilia in Japan, where they were turned into coffee tables and

The market for the Cooper was still out there, and John Cooper made the point strongly to the Rover management. After rigorous market research by Rover, the Mini Cooper returned in carburetted 1275cc form in 1990 and John Cooper launched the complementary. tary "S" pack. The door opened by John Cooper leads straight to the new Mini Cooper.

So what does he think of the latest incarnation of his Mini Cooper baby? He says: "I know the Mini is getting expensive. There are still people though who love the Mini because it is fun to drive.

The new car has various improvements, such as the front seats which fold as well as olt forward to make it easier to get into the back. It is much quieter because the radiator has been moved to the front of the engine with an electric fan instead of the old mechanical fan which robbed It of about three horsepower. There is an airbag, side-impact bars in the door, and higher gear ratios to help make motorway driving more enjoyable. "It is a great little car. It's quieter, it's fun, it still handles and feels like a Mini, and I am sure it will carry on until the end of the century when

Already John Cooper is thinking ahead. Rover, makers of the Mini, is now owned by BMW, where Bernd Pischetsrieder, a self-confessed Mini addict and nephew of Issigonis, is in charge.

ohn Cooper has met the BMW chairman a number of times, and though BMW recently announced that the all-new Mini would be built from the turn of the century using engines built in Brazil by BMW in conjunction with Chrysler, Cooper says: "My own ideal would be to have the new Mini using Rover's own K-Series engines. That would give a range of cars from 1.1-litre to 1.8-litres, Imagine a Cooper S with the 1.8-litre K-series engine which Rover is using now in its MGF sports cars. That engine gives a thumping 143bhp! Quite enough I think to get the Mini Cooper S back into international competition."

acted

The Ideas do not end there: he would also like to see the Mini get power steering, a hatchback-style rear door, longer wheelbase and Hydragas suspension. Like the Mini itself, the passing years only serve to make 73-year old John Cooper and the 37-year old Mini fresher and greener.

STEERING

Suspension pioneer Alex Moulton tells Hilary Stone why driving is a waste of time

The two names go togeth-er as icons of British motoring when Sir Alec Issigonis designed the Mini, he turned to Alex Moulton to design a brilliant solution to packing a suspension system. which would offer a comfortable ride, into such a small space. Moulton created the amazingly compact and effect-

ive rubber cone suspension. His influence is still felt with his Hydragas suspension fit-ted to the Rover 100 and MGF. The Mini was born in part out of the Suez Crisis and petrol rationing. So, too, was the Moulton bicycle. Moulton had bought a lightweight bike to ride around on to save petrol but decided he could improve is and the Moulton bicycle with small wheels and rubber

 suspension was born in 1962. Its mood fitted perfectly the Sixties and the age's obsession with quirky British design. In 1983 he launched a new series of high-performance smallwheeled bikes, the AM series, which is still made on his estate in Bradford-on-Avon.

What was your first car?

My first car was one ! built with a Locomobile steam engine with a flash boiler. I drove it up and down the estate. I followed this with an Austin Seven.

■ What cars do you drive now?

Lalways have a variety of cars ecause my work involves consultancy with the automotive industry. I currently have a Rover 100, which is the latest version of the Metro which Citroën GSA, which has excely your attention at all to do lent and very interesting sus-



Moulton: in favour of vehicle ownership, but not necessarily their indiscriminate use

pension and the latest version of the Citroen XM which is a fine big car inside. I have recently gone back to a Crewe product, a Bentley Turbo. I also have my special Mini Cooper S with interconnected Hydragas suspension.

What is the car you dislike

In the past it has been the Volkswagen Beetle. The rearengined design was oversteering and unstable. I'm not fond of the old Volvos either.

What is your dream car?

There isn't really one. I always have a range of cars according to the type of driving I am considering. I am pretty impressed with the Bentley Turbo.

What do you like about driving?

Not very much. I am happy to be driven by a good driver. I am fortunate to have a retired police instructor as a driver. I think that driving is not a full commitment of a person: you're just sitting there with little physical effort, entirely has our suspension. I have a nervous, yet you can't remove

What is your worst habit in the car?

Passengers always complain when I put my hand over the air slots to see if there's any air coming out. They don't seem to like that, though I think it's perfectly reasonable.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Simply aggression in driving. What is the most unusual

thing you have done in a car? To be marooned in a car during a bombing raid in the war. We tried to decide whether it was to be safer in the car

or out, but stayed put.

What do you listen to in your

Always Radio 3 and classical

music. I won't listen to what I call jungle music. lf you were the Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

I would raise the motorway 70mph limit is rather mocking nowadays. Secondly, I would certainly not build any more new roads though I would go that is going to happen.

for improvement programmes. I am enormously keen on traffic calming and

horrified at the speed at which

cars travel in urban areas.

What is your favourite car advertisement?

l always regard car advertisements as an indication of the ones that are not selling and I automatically reject them.

Have you had any points on

your licence? Yes, twice for speeding though, touch wood, not any accidents.

What is the future for personal transport?

The bicycle will continue for a very long time. Its use is expanding because of all its good features. The ownership of private cars should be encouraged, but not their use. I like the idea that cars should he bought for personal mobility but used only sparingly. No car driver should expect the right to make a journey at his or her chosen time on his or speed limit to 80mph: the her route. The bicycle and the pedestrian should be given every form of improved facility to move about freely. I think

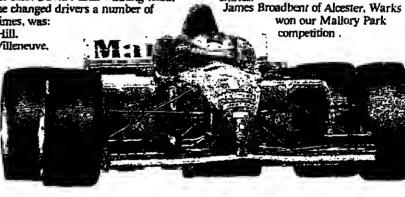
Icon still pedals ideas | Money man wins £10,000

the new Mini arrives."





David Rokov (pictured left) kept his lead and won our FI Fantasy Drive with 8,450 Rosset and Badoer. points. David, a financial adviser who Our 15th race winner for the lives with his wife, Carol, near Bracknell, performance of his team in the Japanese Berkshire, plans to spend his £10,000 Grand Prix is Ian Tucker, a civil servant, cash prize in two ways. "I will put most from Croydon, whose team, Tucker's into a unit trust scheme for our new Luck, scored 614 points. He wins a trip for baby who is due in a few weeks. And two to next year's British Grand Prix. He with the rest [1] buy Premium Bonds." was selected at random from two winning he said. David's final winning team. he changed drivers a number of times, was:



TOTAL POINTS AFTER THE JAPANESE GP

	Lest race points	Total Fantasy points
Group A		
01 M Schumache		1178
02 J Alesi	. 12	1302
O3 D Hill	94 -	1297
Group B		
04 G Berger	86	1094
05 E Irvine	. 54	820
O6 J Villeneuve Group C	56	1401
97 D Coulthard	78	1109
08 M Hakkinen	92	1326
99 HH Frentzen	84	973
Group D		
10 M Brundle	94	1046
11 R Barrichello	80	1163
12 J Herbert	80	1009
Group É		
13 M Salo	28	884
14 Planty	80	878
15 P Diniz	18	842
Group F		
16 U Katayama	44	737
17 J Verstappen	83	873
18 O Panis	90	1063
Group G		
19 G Fisichella*	٥	377
20 R Rosset	- 78	815
Group H		
21 L Badcer	G	365
22 A Montermini	0	167
*Replaces T Marq	_	

Qualifying points are scored by qualifying for the start of each grand prix within the first 20 positions on the grid: J Villeneuve 20 points; D Hill 19; M Schumacher 18; G Berger 17; M Hakkinan16; E Irvina15; H-H Frentzen14; D Coulthard 13; J Alesi12; M Brundle11; R Barrichello 10; O Panis 9; J Herbert 8; U Katayama 7; M Salo 6; P Dtnlz 5; J Verstappen 4; P Larny 3; R Rosset 2. Finishing points are scored by the top 20 drivers at the end of every grand prix: D Hill 20; M Schumacher 19; M Hakkinen18; G Bergar17; M Brundle16;

HH Frentzen15; O Panis14; D Coulthard

13; R Barrichelio 12; J Herbert 11; J

Verstappen 10; P Lamy 9; R Rosset 8;

(only thirteen eligible drivers finished) Lap points one point for each lap completed: D Hill 52; M Schumacher 52; M Hakkinen 52; G Berger 52; M Brundle 62; HH Frentzen 52; O Panis 52; D Coulthard 52; R Barrichello 52; J Herbert 52; J Verstappen 51; P Lamy 50; 50; R Rosset 50; E Irvine 39; U Katayama 37; J Villeneuve 36; M Salo 20; P Diniz 13.

Improved position points three points for each place improved from starting grid to finishing position: P Lamy 18; J Verstappen 18; R Rosset 18; M Brundla 15; O Panis 15; J Herbert 9; M Hakkinen 6; R Barrichello 6; M Schumacher 3; D Hill 3; HH Frentzen 3.

Coulthard, Barrichello, Lamy, Panis,

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J	03	8,406	Brothers Hotshots	W Lemon
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ı	05	8,399	Aces	D Maynor
١	90	8,386	Cwywyl	R Groves
1	07	8,347	Del Wall	K Walton
{	08	B,319	Scab Car	R Howells
ſ	08	8,319	The Great 8	M Neathan
1	08	8,319	Boy Racer 7	J Moore
1	08	8,319	Phoney	D Park
` Ì	08	8,319	Cowglide Racing	R Wheeler
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Property and the second BUSINES

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EXECUTIVE VOICE

Can Britain still be a nation of shareholders? **PAGE 28**

Monday Tuesday ∪ Wednesday Thursday_

Firiday

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 1996

WORKING WEEK

Smooth ride for Sherwood on Orient-Express **PAGE 29**



Rail deal

curbs

agreed by

transport

operator

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

STAGECOACH, the transport

company, is to yield to pres-sure for anti-competitive curbs on its rail activities to avoid

jeopardising its £825 million purchase of Porterbrook, the

The Department of Trade and industry said yesterday that it would refer the deal to

the Monopolies and Mergers

Commission unless Stage-

coach gave pledges that it would ring fence some of its

operations. The DTI backed a call from the Director-General

of Fair Trading for trading conditions because of concerns

over Stagecoach's ownership

train-leasing company.

SPORT

Just champion: Els swings back into contention **PAGES 45-52**

THE HIDDEN **ASSETS OF** ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE

PAGE 29

ers

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

Lending figures show signs of fatigue

By Janet Bush **ECONOMICS** CORRESPONDENT

THE British consumer revival appears to have lost some steam, with a clutch of lending figures from banks and build ing societies yesterday showing some weakening in borrowing.

Building society gross mort-gage advances fell to £3.45 bil-lion in September compared with £3.81 billion in August. Net advances dipped to El.]] billion (El.35 billion). In spite of these falls, the Building Societies Association noted that gross advances were still 30 per cent higher than a year ago and that the housing market recovery is well established.

Adrian Coles, director-general of the BSA, noted that new mortgage approvals, although slightly lower than August's figure, are still at high levels. and this suggests that the housing recovery will continue into the winter. There was also good news on savings, with an inflow of E512 million to societies in September, the strongest inflow since October last year.

Separate figures from the British Bankers Association showed that lending by lead-ing British banks rose £2.45 billion in September, against E3.07 billion in August, and the average over the past six months of £3.32 billion.

11 8 71.

The lending component of M4 money supply was also somewhat weak. Lending rose £3.5 billion, significantly lower than the £5.4 billion for August, according to Bank of England figures. M4 money supply rose 0.8 per cent. Its annual growth was 9.8 per cent, against 9.4 per cent in August - further above the Government's 3 to 9 per cent monitoring range. However, economists noted that M4 was boosted by an inflow of funds into sterling and that underly-

ing growth may be easing. Tim Congdon, a member of the Chancellor's independent forecasting panel, called for a 1 per cent rise in interest rates. He said raising rates now would avert the need for more drastic action later. Professor Congdon is concerned that a Clarke boomlet is being created for political reasons in the run-up to the election.

BUSINESS

TODAY

STOCK MAJERET

LONDON MONEY

STERLING

DOLLAR

Tokyo close Yen 112.40

3rent 15-day (Jan) \$23.80 (\$23.55)

London close \$380.25 (\$380.45)

' denotes midday trading price

COLD

NORTH SEA OIL

2.4550 8.2942 2.0253 179.11 89.3

5.2095* 1.2708*

112.54° 97.8

(1.5865) (2.4491) (8.2759) (2.0129) (177.94)

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London:

Playing cupid: Mike O'Brien, left, a Labour Treasury spokesman, and Richard Hammond, managing director of Business Blind Date, at the launch of the company, which aims to marry businesses and "angel" investors

UniChem rebids for Lloyds Chemists

UNICHEM launched a fresh £638.8 million bid for Lloyds Chemists yesterday after the Department of Trade and Industry gave it and Gehe, the German pharmaceuticals company, clearance to rebid.

Gehe said il remains interested in acquiring the business, but stopped short of making a new bid. Lloyds advised its shareholders to take no action for the time being. A cash bid by Gehe is widely expected to be announced shortly.

Dieter Kammerer, chair-man of Gehe, attacked the UniChem offer, saying: "We believe UniChem would face significant risks in acquiring Lloyds Chemists given the relative size of the two companies."

Jeffrey Harris, chief execurive of UniChem, described

Gehe's statement as "rather silly" and added: "Why don't they get on with it and make a bid? They should put their money where their mouth is."

and Gehe had fulfilled the conditions it had laid down in July by agreeing to sell much Lloyds' pharmaceutical wholesaling operations, and it approved UniChem and Gene's lists of around 20 prospective purchasers.

UniChem's new cash-andshares bid received a setback when its shares slid 90 to 2490 after the Office of Fair Trading said it would seek an end to resale price maintenance of over-the-counter drugs. Uni-Chem said that the financial effect of the loss of RPM would be "immaterial to UniChem's

It said Moss Chemists, its 400-branch retail pharmacy

chain, makes most of its income from prescription pharmaceuticals. Lloyds shares rose 17p to 521 p.
UniChem's bid has the

one that lapsed in March when it was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. For every ten Lloyds ordinary shares, it is offering 16 new UniChem shares and 926p in cash. This values each Lloyds ordinary share at 49lp.

For each Lloyds preference share, it is offering 59.742p in cash and 1.0323 new UniChem ordinary shares. This values each preference share at 316.8p. UniChem, which is being advised by UBS and BZW, said there will be no said there will be no special dividend and there is no underwritten cash tion should be "materially earnings enhancing after the first 12 months". Il has increased its rationalisation costs forecast from £26 million

Gehe, which is being advised by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, said that UniChem had no experience of integrating an acquisition as large as Lloyds Chemists. UniChem first bid for

Lloyds, which has more than 900 retail pharmacies - making it second in size only to Boots - in January last year. Gehe then entered with a rival bid in February, prompting a higher bid by Lloyds. Gehe then increased its bid.

Analysis noted that Uni-Chem's new bid was not described by the company as

Tempus, page 30

alternative. UniChem said the acquisi-Amec talks target

Virgin Direct to sell pensions

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

VIRGIN DIRECT, the financial services division of Richard Branson's Virgin empire, is moving into personal pen-

Announcing the launch of the personal pension, Mr Branson said there was a huge gap between consumer requirements and what the pensions industry had to offer.

Virgin Direct already provides life insurance and personal equity plans (Peps). The pension will be simple, lowcost and will be based on a fund that tracks the UK index. Virgin is entering an industry that has proved highly controversial after allegations that hundreds of thousands of people were wrongly advised io leave lucrative occupational pension schemes and take out personal pensions. Also, it is becoming increasingly appar-ent that the State will not be

population. sions industry had "let greed get the better of them" in the past. Increased competition was the answer, he said.

French holding

BY GEORGE SIVELL

AMEC, the British building group that less than a year ago fought off a bid from Kvaerner and made an unsuccessful offer for Alfred McAlpine, vesterday revealed that it was in talks to buy a stake in Spie Batignolles, the French electrical and construction business.

Any resulting deal, howon the same terms as the Spie management. Amec would ultimately aim for a controlling

operation on the stock market. Amec put no figure on the size of the investment but said it would be met from resources. Amec shares reacted with a 2p fall to 1062p. Peter Mason, chief executive of Amec, said the combined group was expected to have sales of £5 billion a year and

stake and float the French

the property development assets financial restructuring.

able to support the aging ever, is subject to approval by would give Amec access to Mr Branson, who was val-Schneider, the holding comnew markets in oil, gas and pany that controls Spie. Amec ued at more than £1.6 billion intends to take a substantial pharmaceuticals. last weekend, said the pen-Last year Schneider took over minority investment in Spie

Asda p..p..picks up a court date

wars, a new form of food rage is set to break out. P..P..P... Penguin wars. United Biscuits, pizzas to frozen food giant and makers of the familiar Penguin biscuit, has launched a legal action against Asda in a bid to halt sales of the supermarket's own-label

United Biscuits says it has no option but to take legal action to defend its brand. "We respect Asda's right to introduce own-label brands but in this case we believe and have been advised that Asda has stepped over the line," said the



Puffins is priced at 58p. Asda has no plans to withdraw its biscuits. "We have spoken at length with United Biscuits but failed to reach agreement.

The best way now is for the

made since 1933 and over 400 million are gobbled up each year in Britain, adding up to E40 million of sales.

P... Pick up a... Penguin" advertising catchline was used again in a recent TV campaign, which included celebrities such as Ulrika Jonnson and Dannii Minogue promoting the bis-

WEEKEND



Anne Ashworth on Morgan Grenfell payoffs

How lenders

keep first-time buyers waiting

of train-operating companies and a rolling stock business. Stagecoach said that it would agree to undertakings sought by the DTI and that they were broadly in line with conditions it bad discussed with the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising. It bought Porterbrook in August amid a "fat eat" contro-

versy when it emerged that six directors and 43 staff shared a E80 million profit just seven months after the company was

The DTI has stipulated conditions for the Porterbrook deal so its rolling stock business cannot favour train companies controlled by Stagecoach. Il also wants a confidentiality provision so Stagecoach cannot learn comoperators via their dealines

with Porterbrook. Other clauses would prohibit cross subsidy, call for provision of information and for cooperation with other train companies.

Porterbrook is soon to announce a £90 million order for new vehicles to be operated by South West Trains, which is owned by Stagecoach.



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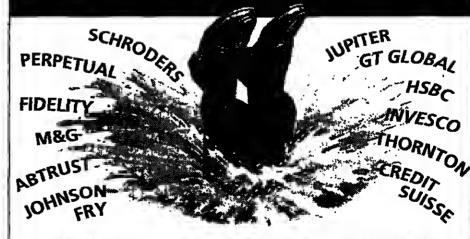


WEEKEND MONEY CHIDES



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AFTER cod wars and lamb

Puffin biscuits.

company. United Biscuits says the similarity in names will confuse shoppers. "All we are asking of Asda is to replace the Puffin brand with something which is not a seabird and easily mistaken for a Penguin." Asda launched its Puffin milk chocolate sandwich biscuit five weeks ago.

relations manager, "Penguin

sales have remained constant,

though Puffin is outselling

of Penguins for 67px a pack of

Asda is selling a seven-pack

Penguin by six to one."

Jonnson: TV campaign said Phil Reed, Asda's public

matter to be resolved independently as quickly as possible," said Mr Reed. Penguin biscuits have been

The long running "P..P.

The two sides in the High Court action are due to meet

One more chance for private investors to take root?

ine years ago this week-end the Black Monday stock market crash knocked the wind out of private investors. As a dramatic and portentous metaphor, the winds had raged over southern Eng-land causing equivalent financial damage and havoc to many. But at that stage we did not realise the long-term effect that the flight of the global markets was going to have. For us in Britain, we were just in the process of nursing and nurturing the new fresh participants to the stock market who had been investing in their millions in the privatisation campaign.

Over the past few years mil-lions of new investors had been drawn into direct equity investment through the enticing cries of the privatisation advertising campaigns. Individuals who had

never ventured further than the building society and National Savings were attracted to the seemingly guaranteed returns of these leviathan share issues.

In the run up to Big Bang, which had occurred the year before, and throughout 1987 the likes of British Gas. British Airways, BT and BAA had swelled the number of burgeoning stock market investors. Never had the securities industry seen such an intensive period of growth, never had it had such an opportunity, and never before was it quite so ill prepared. The question was, would it ever be able to take full advantage of it. As the investment enthusiasm of the small private investors

grew, so did the underlying factors that eventually were to cause the financial earthquake of that October. In Britain the

growing knowledge of these mil-lions of nursery investors was, however, all too shallow, and stocks were seen as a form of punting where the dice always rolled your way. Thus when disaster struck, their reaction

was all the more depressing.

Overnight, the stock market for many went from being a benign albeit distant and mysterious beast, into a patently dangerous institution run by the few for the benefit of others. Overnight the goodwill and confidence of the burgeoning inves-tors was blown away in the allegorical gale of the previous weekend. Overnight investment intentions reverted to the safer if somewhat lacklustre havens of the deposit account.

Ever since, it has been my belief that the after shocks of the Crash caused not only many



Justin Urquhart Stewart

investors to stay away altogether, but ensured that others merely kept their share investment just to the privatisations. The figures of shareholding which show the growth since 1979 to over ten million, also highlight the fact that most have only one or two holdings, and that pitifully few ever went on to buy any other shares outside the Government

So has it all been a failure? A great idea crippled by an unfortunately timed stock market crash? No. the issue cannot be blamed on just the vicissitudes of the markets, nor even the meteo-relogical conditions of southern England. Our stock market industry itself has to take much of the responsibility. Faced with this gigantic crèche of nursery investors, the industry's answer was purely transactional. Bar-gain volumes dictated that there was little time for the niceties of advice and support. It was the time of fast trading (and slow settlement) and quick share turnrounds, and if the young investors didn't understand, well

they could come back when they had a "proper portfolio".

Over the years since then, we have seen great developments in faster execution-only dealing, but all too rarely have we seen the industry take real advantage of these newcomers to help them to grow their assets over a long period of time. The commission earning culture may be easier for stockbrokers to handle, but it is not the way to grow and develop your market or necessarily your

But all is not lost. Someone has forgiven us our sins, for we have been given one more chance to put right the wrongs of our previous actions. Next year, 1997. is due to see the flotation of some of the largest institutions in Britain. The demutualisation of some building societies and the Norwich Union will lead to yet

another vast influx of small

This time let's hope the industry is better prepared to serve these newcomers, not by just treating them as the old privansation participants, but as the future investors in the market both directly and indirectly. Here is the opportunity to bridge the gap between the deadening effect of the deposit account and variability of the equity market. By using its imagination the industry can work to grow its customer base and not just fritter it away on short-term com-mission windfalls.

We must make sure then that these investors have a chance to take root and not be blown away by another stock market storm.

Justin Urquhart Stewart is director of Barclays Stockbrokers Ltd

K&S and Gerrard to merge

GERRARD & National Holdings and King & Shaxson, the rival finance groups, are to merge in a £54 million deal (Clare

Stewart writes).
The agreed bid will create one of the largest private client stockbroking groups, bringing together the broking businesses of Gerrard Viviao Gray and Greig Middleton, with about £10 billion of funds under management.

The terms of the deal offer 17 Gerrard shares for 25 K&S shares, valuing the latter at 203.3p each. K&S is valued at E86.9 million. Gerrard shares fell 27p to 272p; K&S rose 20p to

18212 p. Tempus, page 30

Japanese trade surplus plunges

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

plunged 41.6 per cent in the first half of fiscal 1996, the biggest decline in 16 years, as imports continued to grow fasier than exports.

Japan's global trade surplus for the April-September period dropped to Y2,90 trillion (El6.3 billion), the smallest surplus since the second half of fiscal 1983, the finance ministry said yesterday.

Higher crude oil prices and a big increase in imports of personal computers and office equipment contributed to the 25.1 per cent rise in Japan's import bill, while exports were up 8.6 per cent, Japan's car

JAPAN'S huge trade surplus industry increased overseas non tomorrow. Mr Clinton sales 15.4 per cent. has boasted that his tough The trade surplus with the European Union in the sixmonth period declined 428 stand on trade disputes was responsible for the shrinking trade deficit with Japan.

per cent from the year earlier, Similarly, Mr Hashimoto is falling for the eighth consecufond of claiming a special talent for handling aggressive tive six-month period in a row, Japan saw its bilateral trade demands from the US and will be happy to take credit for a surplus with the US fall 24.2 per cent due largely to rising falling surplus and a more imports of office equipment harmonious trade relationand electronic devices. ship with Washington. Economists said that the

In September alone, Japan's global trade surplus fell 30.3 per cent year-on-year to 779.52 trillion yen, the 22nd consecutive month of decline.



Tempus, page 30 Sir Christopher Lewinton believes that the offer is fair to Forsheda's shareholders

Setback for TI bid

ment, we would be doing our own investors a disservice by not seeking a better price."

TI Group, whose chairman said: "We believe that the offer is full and fair to Forsheda

It has been recommended by the Forsheda board. The offer will remain open until November 8.

Scottish TV offer cleared

Scottish Television was yesterday cleared to complete its £120 million offer for Caledonian Publishers, which owns The Heroid in Glasgow, after it gave assurances that David Montgomery, chief executive of Mirror Group, which has 20 per cent of Scottish, would have no influence on the running of Caledonian.

Abbot expands

Abbot Group, the oil services company, is to buy Nabors Europe for £24.7 million. Nabors Europe, which provides drilling and engineering services, operates nine rigs for Chevron, Elf and Oryx. The deal will be part financed by a one-for-five placing and open offer at 83p

Market floats

The Australian Stock Exchange cleared the way to becoming the first publicly listed stock exchange in the world yesterday after more than 96 per cent of its members voted in favour of transferring ownership from stockbrokers to shareholders.

Deficit narrows

The US trade deficit narrowed to \$10.8 billion in August (\$11.6 billion in July), but was well above Wall Street predictions of a \$8.5 billion deficit.

PORTEOLI

figures were good news for

President Clinton, who is seek-

ing re-election next month, and Ryutaro Hashimoto, the

Japanese Prime Minister, as

he heads into a general elec-

ind of Funds

Fixed price offer closes 1st November 1996

PORTFOLIO ASIA FUND is a new unit trust which aims to achieve maximum capital growth from investment in the great growth economies of the Far East. Like the other weilknown Portfolio funds it will use the fund of funds principle, aiming to choose the best Asia funds from the best Asia fund managers.

THE ASIAM PHEMOMENON

Asia Fund will give investors access to some of the world's most dynamic markets. China is a prospective economic super power. Hong Kong is China's New York. Korea is the Japan of the future. Indonesia has more people than Russia, India produces more computer software than the United States. Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan have taken over from Japan as the leading makers of consumer electronics. Thailand and the Philippines are growing faster than any European Union country. Asia Fund will accordingly invest across the whole sweep of these countries, from Korea to India. It may also Include Australia, but will avoid

THE FUND OF FUNDS ADVANTAGE

No one fund manager can master all the companies in all the countries in Asia. India alone has 4,000 quoted shares. But individual funds and fund managers can be very good indeed. Portfolio Asia Fund aims to pick out the best of them, organising them into a tax-efficient portfolio in which changes can be made without incurring capital gains tax: even the best of funds can run out of growth and have to be changed for a better one. The fund can include both UK authorised unit trusts and SIB-recognised offshore funds. As with the existing Portfolio funds of funds, selection leans heavily on the analytical work of Fund Research Limited, the leading specialist in assessing the quality of funds and their managers.

threstors should however bear in mind that the value of their investment could go down as well as up.

A PURE CAPITAL GROWTH FUED

The aim of Portfolio Asia Fund is to achieve maximum capital growth. Income is reinvested net of basic rate tax and reflected in the price of units. Higher rate taxpayers may incur a further liability, but this is likely to be small: the estimated initial gross yield is 0.1%. The fund is exempt from Capital Gains Tax on its internal transactions but unitholders may be liable to CGT when they sell units.

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST

Unlike the stockmarkets of Britain, America and much of Europe, Asian markets have recently been unusually depressed. They now represent excellent value. We expect that their growth pattern will soon be renewed.

Liberty international America or Liberty International Gloss

PATHFINDER PORTFOLIO

The planned portfolio will include regional and single country unit trusts and SIB-recognised Asia funds. The provisional list, which may be subject to change, is as follows:

Fidelity ASEAN, South East Asia Fidelity Funds Hong Kong & China, Korea, Malaysia Schroder Far Eastern Growth, Pacific Growth, Seoul **HSBC** Asian

HSBC GIF Chinese Equity, Hong Kong Equity, Singapore Equity Templeton GS China, Korea GT China, India, Orient

Credit Suisse Orient Fleming Flagship China, Eastern Opportunities Perpetual Asian Smaller Markets Abtrust Far East Emerging Economies Friends Provident Australia **GAM** Asian Funds Invesco Taiwan Growth

PORTFOLIO'S TRACK RECORD

Portfolio's original Fund of Funds began in December 1989 and is the outstanding fund of funds of the industry. To 31 July 1996 it was the best performing fund of funds since launch, and also over 6 years, 5 years, 4 years and 3 years. (Source: Hindsight). Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance, but Portfolio Asia Fund will be run in the same way by the same people although concentrating solely on

FIXED PRICE OFFER

The initial offer of units is at a fixed price of 50p each until Friday 1 November. The minimum investment is £1,000. During the initial offer period there will be a 1% discount on all investments of £3,000 or more, 2% from £10,000 and 3% from £25,000. To invest, complete the coupon and send it, with your cheque, to be received no later than Friday 1 November. Applications received after then will have units allocated at the full offer price next calculated after receipt.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications will be acknowledged with a contract note and certificates will be sent within 21 days of the close of the offer. From 4 November 1996, writs will be valued and dealt in on a forward basis at 10.00 am daily. When units are sold, cheques will be posted within five days of receipt of the renounced certificate.

Prices will be published every day in the Financial Times. The Times and The Delly Telegraph. The spread between bid and offer prices may be varied within the regulations. The initial charge is 6%. The maximum annual charge is 2%, but the actual charge for the foreseeable future will be 1.5%. Any increase would require 90 days notice. Trustee's, Auditor's and Registrar's fees are paid by the fund. Commission is payable to approved intermedienes: rates are available on removed.

The underlying funds best their own charges. The initial charges are likely to be reduced by negotiation. On the existing Portfolio Fund of Funds the average charge is under 0.5%. In some cases annual charges are reduced as well.

Copies of the Trust Deed and Scheme Particulars are available on request from the Manager. Reports will be published twice yearly. The Trustre is Midland Bank plc, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 40A. Regulated by IMRO.

The Registrars and Administrators are Premier Administration Limited, S Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex OM13 1AA. Telephone: 01277 227300, Fax: 01277 231084, Regulated by WARO. The Manager is Portfolio fund Management Umited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5TP, Telephone: 0171 638 0608. Fac: 0171 638 0050, Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and by IMRO.

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INITIAL OFFER of units in Portfolio Asia Fund at 50p each until Friday 1 November 1996.

PORTFOLIO ASIA FUND

BY OLIVER AUGUST

TI GROUP has suffered a setback in its bid for Forsheda, the Swedish engineering company. TI's £189 million takeover offer was yesterday rejected by Henderson Investors, which controls 13 per cent of Forsheda.

Stephen Peak, a Henderson fund manager, said: While the TI bid represents a handsome return on our invest-

is Sir Christopher Lewinton, shareholders."

TOURIST RATES 1,93 18,67 48,94 2,069 0,7198 9,12 7,23 8,00 2,384 972 11,89 2.09 18.17 53.24 2.249 0.7748 9.82 7.88 8.65 2.594 397 12.89 115 1.042 5.54 192.00

THE SUNDAY TIMES

It's the winner takes all economy: increasing salaries for those who can make a difference, but tough wage restraint for those at the bottom of the scale ... 9

Business Focus - The Sunday Times, tomorrow

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A WORKING WEEK FOR: SIMON SHERWOOD

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Fast track to success aboard Orient-Express

Jon Ashworth meets a global player who is determined to ensure that travel to exotic

locations should be an instructive experience

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SIMON SHERWOOD used to spend his time in cement factories. Now he visits luxury hotels - one of the perks of being president of Orient-Express Hotels. Sherwood, 35, and newly married.

spends his life flying round the world, sampling cocktails in Cape Town, and dodging sandbanks on the Irrawaddy. Jobs like this do not appear in the classified ads.

Sherwood's step-father. James. is president of Sea Containers, the Bermudaregistered company that owns Hoverspeed. SeaCai and the InterCity East Coast rail franchise, along with a massive container-leasing business. The leisure division takes in some evocative names, from the Cipriani in Venice, to the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, and the British Pullman train service. There is a half-share in Harry's Bar in London. discreet haunt of peers and tycoons, and a full stake in Gametrackers, a collection of safari lodges in the Okavango region of northern Botswana. Trains, river cruisers and lodges alike fall under the banner of Orient-Express Hotels. This is the younger Sherwood's patch.

So many times when I travel I wake up

and I could be in any country in the world," says Sherwood, newly returned from a honeymoon in Ecuador, "A lot of our customers want to have more of an educational and cultural experience. They want to taste the food, they want to see the local life, live a bit of the country, not just go in and tick it off their list."

Orient-Express has been busy snapping up properties and launching new services in the five years since Sherwood joined the family business. The portfolio now includes the "2!" club in New York. purchased last November, and Reid's in Madeira, added in July. In Burma, "Road to Mandalay", a luxurious, if controversial, river excursion, is soon to complete its first year's service. A resort in the Caribbean may be next. We tend to be very opportunistic in what we acquire," says Sherwood. We're not strategic. We don't say: I need five hotels in Asia in the next five years'. We're looking for very unique experiences for our guests, but we're not too bothered with where it is. We'll take the guest to the uniqueness."

From any other mouth, this could be so much corporate spiel - but not in Sherwood's case. Dapper and affable, he is eager to chat about life at Sea Thames in London. Born in Oxford, he went to Bishop's Stortford College, then read natural sciences at Cambridge, specialising in experimental psychology.

"I used to have a wonderful little pet rat, which would come and sit on your shoulder," he recalls. "The only downside to the rat is that it was a total alcoholic. If you were holding a glass of wine it would come whipping down your arm and dunk its head in. Sweet little rat. No longer with

After university. Sherwood spent a couple of years in France, Italy and Spain, brushing up on his languages. In 1986, armed with an MBA from Harvard, he signed up with Boston Consulting Group in San Francisco, finding time for yet another diversion: "I decided to go and teach in China for a bit."

Sherwood ended up in Nanchang in Jiangzi Province on a salary of \$50 a month. There were 25 westerners in the region, which made me kind of like a movie star. They used to follow you

Confusion trailed in his wake. "You can't find your bicycle anywhere because they're all black, so I painted mine red, thinking: This is great, I'll be able to find it' — which I could. But the problem was that you're cycling along with everyone else, and a red bicycle and a foreigner is just too much. They all turned and stared at you. So when you got to the end of the road, you turned round, you'd see bicycles everywhere - hit into each other, hit

Sherwood arrived for work in San Francisco with nowhere to stay. The problem was swiftly resolved. "I met this young lady at a party and she said: 'I've fallen in love with this

guy in New York, and I'm in New York the whole time, why don't you stay at my flat?" Sherwood returned to a palatial apartment with sweeping views over the Bay. His new-found friend handed over the keys, urged him to use her BMW, then dashed off to catch the 7.30 flight to New York. "Only in San Francisco

could that happen," says Sherwood. "I lived there for four years. She got married and then divorced, and moved in, and out, and we're great friends." He relished his time at Boston Consulting. "I loved consulting, absolutely

adored it," he says. "I had some wonderful assignments. I worked with a cruise line in Seattle, lived there for six months. [would] go up to the Yukon to give sales and marketing talks." He spent time in Mexico, advising washing machine groups and cement factories. Sherwood returned to the UK in 1991;

not without regret. San Francisco allowed him to indulge in sailing, skiing and other passions, including flying. "There's something about being an Englishman in America, and young and single, that is unbeatable." He became vice-president of strategy at Sea Containers, assessing the potential threats to business, then turned his eye to the leisure division.

One of his first targets was the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, suffering a dearth of Americans in the aftermath of the Gulf War. "We reduced the schedule considerably, down to the level of the demand," be recalls. "It improved the bottom line result enormously.

CHIDDEN ASSETS

Squeeze on space leads to



On the occasions that he is not required to visit the company's hotels, Simon Sherwood is based at Sea Containers House overlooking the Thames

Sherwood took charge fully in 1994. Much of his first year was devoted to cutting costs and improving yields. as well as renovating hotels such as the Copacabana Palace in Rio de Janeiro, and the Splendido on the Italian Riviera. A current focus is South Africa, where his interests include the Mount Nelson Hotel in Cape Town, purchased in 1989 and refurbished at great expense. A new hotel, The Westcliff, opens in Johannesburg early next year.

Sherwood spends about half his time "on the road", visiting each of the nearly 20 hotels and attractions at least twice a year. He regularly travels to Heathrow by taxi-motorbike, strapping his luggage on

"I love to travel light. I'm not a motorbike rider at all, but there's a certain thrill," he says, tugging at his mouth with stream. He flies business class, usually overnight. "I have little pyjamas, put those on; my little teddy bear I take with me as well." Home is in Chelsea.

The only cloud, as such, looms in South-East Asia, where interests include the Eastern & Oriental Express, which runs between Bangkok and Singapore. A decision to route the train over the Bridge

oped. The present building with its familiar

lome, was completed in 1905. In 1919 acquisition fever

struck again and The Liver-pool and London and Globe

merged with Royal In-surance. The new company

became known simply as The

Royal Insurance Company.

But again more space was

required and the group bought the three adjacent buildings in 1936 and 1937.

creating what eventually be-

came, in 1981, Royal Insur-

The award-winning refur

bishment was carried out in

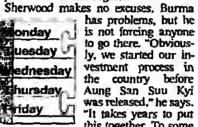
1995-96 to mark the Royal's

150th anniversary. And just

in time too, for pressure on

ance's group head office.

on the River Kwai has angered war veterans. Further north, cruises on the Irrawaddy have angered opponents of the repressive Burmese regime.



this together. To some extent, the more recent, and very funda-mental, thing of should there be tourism to Burma? has been something that's come since we got involved in the country," Bookings have been "quite good", particularly from America, France, Germany and Japan.

Sherwood expects "Road to Mandalay" to make some money next year. "I think people have to make up their own minds," he says. "All I can say is it's a beautiful country, it's a lovely country, and you certainly have no impression of any kind of overbearing military regime."

Sherwood has another reason to feel a special attachment to Burma. He proposed to his then-girlfriend, Tima Curwen. halfway up a pagoda in the ancient city of Pagan. Tina is a dentist and he organised a geriatric stripper for her hen night — complete with removable dentures.

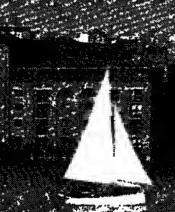
The couple were married at Buckland. Oxfordshire, on September 7, and took over the Sherwood country house for the reception. Intent on avoiding hotels during their honeymoon, the Sherwoods flew to Ouito in Ecuador, took a cruise to the Galapagos, ventured into the rainforest, then spent a week sailing off the coast in an old wooden ketch.

n di to he he nih to of

Back at his desk, Sherwood is happy to ; she carry on squeezing margins and seizing been opportunities. From losing money. Orient-Express Hotels is expected to make acted about \$30 million this year, on sales of one \$300 million. Sherwood is suitably gung- le to ho. I really enjoy what I'm doing. I just th in want to try to keep improving things until they get to such a great stage that the board feels they have to give me a huge bonus, and I can refire to the golf course." His wife may have other ideas.

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triumph of refurbishment

umber One Cornhill, that imposing five-storeyed domed building in the heart of the City of London, has just won a 1996 Heritage Award for 1724 Number One Cornhill the impressive restoration carried out by its owner, the Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Group. Standing out among all the heavy masculine banking architecture of the neighbouring Mansion House and Bank of England. the Royal's building looks soft, rounded and resolutely English. And there is some-thing gently ecclesiastical too about the marbles and the glearning brass interior of the

main banking hall. The street layout in this exclusive corner of commerce and wealth has barely changed in the past 400 Joanna Pitman views the restoration work that won the Royal a top award

housed a cluster of small buildings including the home and bookshop of Thomas Guy, who made sufficient money selling Bibles to en-able him to endow the hospital that still carries his name. The only main thoroughfare to have been introduced

since Guy's time is King William Street which in the early 1830s carved its way through a maze of little streets, laying waste to City taverns and restaurants and the offices of ancient City fraternities, the saddlers, merchant tailors, haberdashers, wax chandlers, barbers,

time the dustered buildings on the site were replaced by a single block, the "Globe Building", owned by the Globe Insurance Company that had grown rapidly since its founding in London in 1803. Consolidation in the industry in the second half of the 19th century led to the takeover of Globe Insurance by The Liverpool and London As fast-growing insurance firms consumed rivals, their premium incomes ballooned and so did their names, this particular marriage produc-

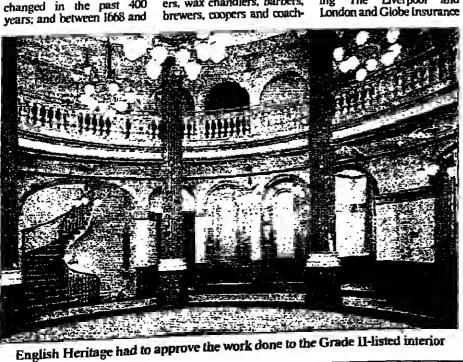
makers. At about the same

Insurance Company in 1864.

ing The Liverpool and

the limited office space bad become so acute that hundreds of working desks had become tightly wedged on to the floor of the main banking Refurbishment was essen tial, but with a Grade IIlisted interior it required the nod from English Heritage. Plans were made in accordance with 1905 drawings and Saul Jarrett Partnership

vere appointed architects. The six-metre green marble columns were restored along with 14 further marble surfaces and slabs of missing marble cladding were re-placed with plaster moulding. New office space has been created, state-of-the-art audio-visual display equipment has been installed, and the exterior of the building cleaned. The refit was completed in early 1996, just in time for the Royal's merger in July with Sun Alliance.





Investor fatigue shows as shares reach record close

lenty to cheer this week, with nare prices on the London ock market advancing to yet nother record last night. The FT-SE 100 index was

howing signs of running out f steam by the close, reflectng an uncertain start to rading on Wall Street after he latest trade figures. Even new closing high of 4.053, I. a ise on the week of 25 points. By the close of business a total of 682 million, cheek and a second of the close of business a total of 682 million, cheek and a second of the close of business a total of 682 million, cheek and the close of the clos :hanged hands.

Lloyds Chemists got off to a lying start with a rise of 17p at 52112p as UniChem re-aunched its bid. It came just minutes after the Government signalled the go-ahead for UniChem to renew its bid battle with the German company Gehe for control of the

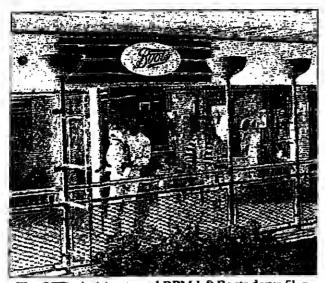
chain of chemist shops.

Terms of the latest offer value Lloyds at £657 million. or 505p a share. The previous offer lapsed in March after being referred, along with an offer from Gehe, to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Now City speculators are waiting to see if Gehe will relaunch its own offer. Gehe said it remained interested in Lloyds. Its previous offer was worth 500p a share. UniChem finished the session 9p cheap-

Within minuses of UniChem making its move, the Office of Fair Trading moved to bring an end to the system of resale price mainte-nance on branded over-thecounter drugs. This left Boots 512p lower at 638p, and Kingwhich fisher. owns Superdrug, Ip off at 65412p. Asda, which started the row in the first place, was marked lower and then recovered to close ip firmer at 11412p. It later welcomed the move and said it could lead to price cuts on everyday healthcare products that would be worth £300 million to consumers.

SmithKline Beecham, the pharmaceutical manufacturer, slipped I 2p to 790p ahead of third-quarter figures next week. A line of one million shares shares went through the market at 792p. A line of one million Glazo was also on offer at £10.10 as the price rose

Eurotherm enjoyed a mark-up of 28p at 600p after an upgrading by ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker. Rob Harris, analyst at Hoare, has turned bullish of the stock,



The OFT's decision to end RPM left Boots down 512p

raising his recommendation "undervalued" lo a buy". He reckons the group will launch a record number new products during the next few years, providing a big boost to profits. Cash flow is expected to grow sharply between now and the rest of the century, enabling the group to develop in the US. Shareholders may expect to benefit from a £40 million bonus in foreign

News International, publisher of The Times, continued to advance towards the 700p mark with a rise of 1712p to 691p. The rise comes after ontimistic comments about BSkyB from Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation at its annual meeting. Sears rose 3p to 91p as a line of five million shares went

through the market at 91p.

Alpha Airports, the airport caterer where Granada holds a 25 per cent stake, marked time at 101p amid mounting speculation that a number of bids may be about to emerge. City speculation suggests an overseas consortium has been taking a close look at Alpha, but may be pipped at the post by BAA. Il 12 p dearer at 516p.

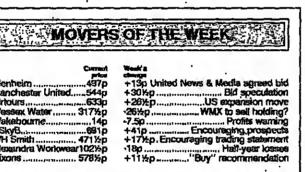
income dividends this year. Among leaders Rank Organisation came off \$12p at 43712p after some disappointing numbers from Xerox Corporation, its US associate, that sent its shares plunging \$10 at one

NatWest rose 1312p to 709p after a "buy" recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing.

BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by

Pearson railied 20p to 69612p as the market continued to reflect on this week's appointment of Marjorie Scardino as the new chief executive. Johnson Matthey was left

looking a little lacklustre with a fall of 1112p at 611p after a profits downgrading by UBS. the broker. It has reduced its recommendation for the shares from a "buy" to a "hold" after cutting its profits forecast for the current year by



has also lowered its forecast for 1997 from £136 million to £125 million because of the depressed electronics market and problems at Cookson

UBS has also cut its profits forecast for Cookson by £5 million to £185 million, but remains a buyer. Cookson was 3p easier at 24612p.

News of a downturn in firsthalf profits and a hid for rival King & Shaxson left Gerrard & National, the discount house nursing a fall of 27p at 272p. King & Shaxson stood out with a jump of 20p to 18212p after digesting the terms from Gerrard valuing the business at £53.7 million.

At the same time pre-tax profits in the first six months at Gerrard slumped by almost half to £6.3 million. The group blamed the decline on the introduction of the gilt repo market, reduced turnover in foreign exchange and increased margin pressure in the derivatives markets.

Market-makers appear to be short of stock in Millennium & Copthorne, the hotel chain, where the price ran up 29p to 35312p after a large buy order earlier in the week. investors have also begun switching out of Stakis, its rival, down 3p at 98p. Millennium & Copthorne came to market in April at 278p. Stakis has been depressed by talk it will buy the Metropole hotel chain from Lonrho, unchanged at 164p.

GILT-EDGED: Further growth in money supply and worries about a revival of inflationary pressures left prices down on the day. The short end of the market bore the brunt of the losses after a call by Professor Tim Congdon, one of the Chancellor's panel of independent advisers, for a full point rise in interest rates. He said the move was needed to nip

inflation in the bud. In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished £516 lower at £109716 as a total of 60,000 contracts were recorded.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished £732 lower at £1002532, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 fell E732 to £1032332. NEW YORK: On Wall Street several top names delivering disappointing results came under selling pressure and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 5.97 points lower at 6,053.23.

FT-SE 100

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

S&P Composite 707.66 (+0.67)
Tokycz Nikieł average 2161230 (+188.56)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 12510.05 [+73.25]
Amsterdam:
Sydney: A0 2355.0 (+1.2)
Frankfurt DAX IMAZ (+18.56)
Singapore: 2064.52 j-4.20
Brussels: General 9945.52 (+30.54)
Paris: CAC-40 2185_23 (+19.90)
Zurich: ska Gen 791.50 (-0.90)
London: FT 30
Bargains40303

RECENT ISSUES

German Mark ______ 24500 (+0.007)
Exchange Index ______ 89.3 (+0.007)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

RPI _____ 153.6 Sep (2.1%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX _____ 153.6 Sep (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

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MAJOR CHANGES

Victory Corp Weeks Group

FALLS:

LONDON FUNANCIAL FUTURES

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Gerrard Net

High

RISES:	
King Shaxson	18212p (+20p)
Pocheris	150p (+15p)
Eurotherm	600p (+28p)
BAA	5160 (+111:0)
Barkeley Gp	
Airtours	
Diploma	386p (+61.p)
Nat West	709p (+1312p)
Millerynium & Cop	353'-p (+29p)
Totterfyn Hot	5200 (+271.0)
ADT	1210p (+40p)

Closing Prices Page 43

386'sp (-13p) Chiroscience 372'20 (-9p)

TEMPUS

Third time unlucky?

and Industry gave the all-clear, and half an hour before the Office of Fair Trading announced it was ordering a review by courts of resale price maintenance on over-thecounter medicines

The speed with which UniChem moved after the DTI clearance indicates the importance of the 900-plus retail branches of Lloyds to the

pharmaceutical wholesaling group.

At first sight, the OFT decision looks detrimental to the value of Lloyds Chemists; companies such as Asda may soon be able to sell discounted paracetamol and aspirin. Were that to be the case, UniChem's haste yesterday would look clumsy. In fact, the uncertainty over drug pricing makes Lloyds an even more

THE timing of UniChem's launch of its third bid for Lloyds Chemists was extraordinary: For UniChem to prosper under a future liberalised pricing regime for medicines, size liberalised pricing regime for medicines. For UniChem to prosper under a future liberalised pricing regime for medicines, size will be crucial. Although shares in Boots were marked down yesterday, the biggest pharmacy chain with its unrivalled huying power will benefit as much as the supermarkets from unrestricted pricing; it is the independent chemists that will suffer the most.

Gehe's anack on UniChem's offer yesterday, and its statement that the acquisition of Lloyds Chemists "continues to be of interest" suggests another cash hid from that quarter is imminent. However much UniChem wants Lloyds, the reality is that the OFT has made investors nervous. If Gehe puts in a cash bid worth more than UniChem's cash-and-shares package, investors will probably ignore the shares and pocket the German cash.

Cookson/

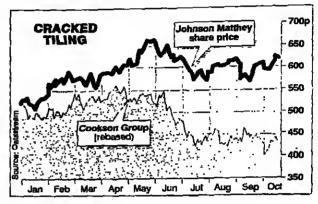
Johnson Matthey

SINCE their failed attempt to merge, Cookson and Johnson Matthey must find it irritating to be lumped to-gether. like disagreeable twins. However, their only common interest has recently become a problem.

Cookson Matthey Ceramics, the joint venture in ceramic materials, has been a star performer thanks to buoyant demand for tiles. Construction activity has boosted the profits of the joint venture that supplies glazes and pigments to tile manufacturers. Weakness in construction has slowed demand for tiles and that has hurt suppliers to the industry. Zircon factories no longer operate at full capacity and analysts have sliced £10 million from the expected

profits of the joint venture this year and they predict flat profits in 1997.

For Johnson Matthey the £5 million downgrading on ceramics comes at the same time as weakness in platinum prices, still a major part of its business. Profit forecasts for 1996 have been cut by between £9 million and £10 million. Cookson, however is looking inexpensive. Although taking its share of the ceramics pain, the company is in the middle of a cost-reduction exercise that should reduce overheads by £10 million in a full year. The electronics slump has probably bottomed out and so have Cookson shares, which now trade at a 10 per cent discount to the market.



Japan

THE Japanese go to the polls tomorrow and the signals are that there could be a good turnout for the right-wing Liberal Democratic Party and a working majority. Any sign of a cohesive government in a country that has for years been fractious and inwardlooking would be good news for investors. Not least for the many who bought Japanese funds early this year, hoping for a strong revival of the Nikkei after six years of

But it never happened. Japanese institutions remained on the sidelines and continued to put money into foreign bond markets in a search for higher yields. Recovery in domestic demand has been patchy and growth in GDP during the current year is expected to be

A victory for the LDP could result in a small rally in the Nikkei, which remains stubbornly below 22,000 - the party has hinted at a five tril-

lion yen (£28 billion) supplementary hudget aimed at stimulating construction. But this looks more like traditional Japanese vote-buying than economic policy. The fundamentals in Japan are changing slowly, but Japanese industry still suffers from overmanning, low returns and a general indifference to inves-tors. Import substitution is beginning to affect the economy putting downward pressure on prices.

None of this suggests a bounce in Japanese equities. If local investors are unconvinced, there is little reason to second-guess them.

Gerrard & National

GERRARD & NATIONAL was once just a discount house but yesterday's merger the group further into the deep-carpeted world of private client stockbroking and fund management.

Weak first-half figures

from Gerrard & National give support to its move away from money markets. The takeover should enhance earnings with cost savings to come through from removing overlap in the back offices of Gerrard Vivian Gray and Greig Middleton, the stockbrokers. Merger will also release £25 million of capital to invest in areas such as stockbroking and fund management, while the latter will have more clout with £10 billion of funds under its control

K&S shareholders have most to gain short-term from the takeover. Gerrard investors saw their investment sink below E3, a far cry from the £5 per share earlier this year. However, once the merger has bedded down, analysts expect the two businesses to deliver profits of more than £30 m 1997-98 and the benefits of the deal to flow through

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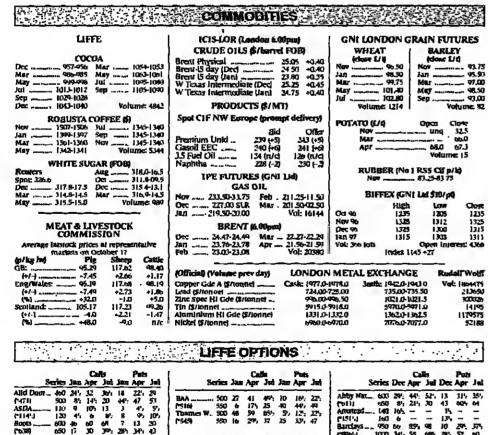
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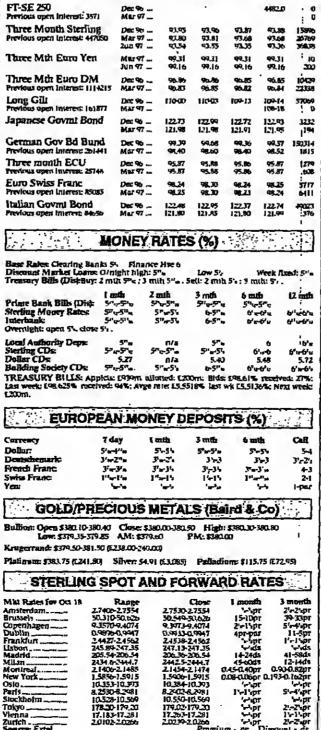
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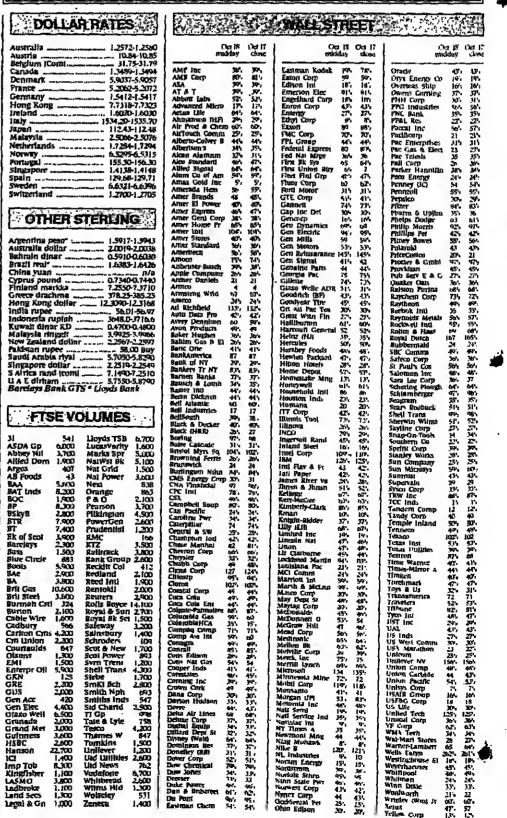
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May [342-134] Volume: 5344	Gasoil EEC 240 (+6) 241 (+6)	Apr 68.0 67.3
	1 3.5 Fuel Cit 134 (n/c) 126 (n/c)	Volume 15
WHITE SUGAR (FOB)	Naphtha 228 (-2) 230 (-2)	
Renters Aug 318.0-10.5		RUBBER (No 1 RSS CS p/ld)
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TriBFK to lode

HERE WE GO 33

Football fans dribble all the way to the bank

WEEKEND MONEY

TESSA'S A STAR 39

Her public calls for more of the same



Borrowers face a stressful and unnecessarily long wait for mortgages, says Sara McConnell

Home groans as lenders dawdle

Beat the mortgage system by making a flying start

WHEN you apply for a mortgage, you can save time by getting and giv-ing as much information as possible at the

beginning. London & Country Mortgages has supplied the following questions fur Weekend Money

readers to ask lenders: ■ How long will it take for you to produce a full written mortgage offer? Is the loan portable if wish to move during the commitment period?

What is your ordinary variable rate? Do you charge an indemnity guarantee premium? If so, bow

much is it? Can this premium be added to the loan? If so, up to what percentage? What is the lock-in

interested in? Are there any other charges on top of early redemption penalties during the lock-in

period on the loan I am

period?

Do I have to take out compulsory with you?

Will you include reguwhen working out hos much I can borrow?

Do I have to pay a valuation fee, and can you give me details of costs of more thorough surveys?

Can my solicitor act for you as well as me? What is the cost of stamp duty on properties over £60,000?

London & Country suggests: "If you have not found a specific property but know how much you are likely to want to borrow, ask the lender for some costings in advance. Ask if it will accept an application before you make an offer on a property, with no fees or commitment on your part. This way they can do the necessary credit checks and obtain your references ready for when you do find some-where."

are having to wait months for mort-gage offers from major lenders who claim they have been caught unaware by the upturn in the housing market. Some borrowers risk losing a their chosen property because they do not have funds in place to complete

Such delays are certain to tarnish the gloss of cheap mortgage deals designed to rempt reluctant buyers back into the market. In some cases, as at the Bristol & West Building Society, lenders offering the cheapest deals have not been able to handle the extra volumes of business attracted by the marketing hype. One Weekend Money read-

er applied for a mortgage from the Royal Bank of Scotland in July. It took the bank until the end of September to finalise the application. The delay would have deprived her of two months of a discounted first-time buyer rate without The Times's help. Other Royal Bank customers are waiting up to four weeks. Some borrowers at the Alliance & Leicester have been waiting a month for the building society to produce mortgage funds. Leeds & Holbeck customers have had to wait three weeks.

These problems follow earlier delays at the Bristol & West. exposed by Weekend Money in August this year. Borrowers faced waits of up to nine weeks. The society claims it has now taken on and trained new staff and has reduced waits to 14 days. It blames its difficulties on "a phenomenal amount of business". Independent mortgage brokers this week accused building society and bank staff of a "lack of urgency". Phillip Cartwright. of London & Country Mortgages, said: "At times, even when things are straightforward, there is delay. Building societies seem to have this attitude that there is nothing after 5pm. Application forms are too often given to inexperienced junior staff to process," he adds. If they miss things, borrowers are subjected to further delays."

lan Darby, of John Charcol, says: "Most lenders have downscaled and were taken by surprise when the market picked up. There are offer periods of four to five weeks from some lenders like the Alliance & Leicester. In the South East, transactions are urgent because there is a shortage of property and things are snapped up quickly." He add-ed that the issue of good service will become more important as the market continves to rise.

Alliance & Leicester admitted it has been having "a few teething problems" with new mortgage administration arrangements. It said: "We have been moving mortgage business away from branches and into mortgage-only units. This move came along at the same time as the upturn in the market, and one or two units, particularly in the South East. have had problems because of a combination of the moving

process and the upturn.
"We are installing new computer systems and redirecting business to other units. The worst is over, but we would not want to indicate that this is

ed." Leeds & Holbeck said it has taken an average of 20 days to complete mortgage applications at its Bristol office this year, but in the last month it has cut this to 18 days, with half completed in 15. The society has been offering competitive deals.

مكذا من الأصل

But brokers say 15 to 18 days is still 100 long and it should be possible to turn round applications in 12 days or less. Mr Cartwright said: There may be factors outside the lender's control. For example, the return of references by landlords or employers. Borrowers should be prepared to nudge people to reply by return."

turn round applications. But they say part of the reason for delays is that they are more cautious about checking the creditwor-thiness of prospective borrowers. Mike Stark, head of new business at Royal Bank of Scotland's Greenock mortgage centre, said: "Lenders are beginning to be more particular and our credit checks are more thorough." He is critical of mortgage brokers for giving borrowers an unrealistic as-sessment of the time their applications will take. The Royal Bank takes up to

four weeks to process applica-tions, but Mr Stark is aiming to cut this to three. He emphasises that the case of Louise Wingrove (see opposite) was a one-off "catalogue of disas-ters" which indicated "important lessons" for the bank in reviewing

Royal Bank pays for blunders



first-time buyer whose mortgage application took more than two Royal Bank of Scotland after the intervention of The Times (Sara McConnell writes).

Louise Wingrove suffered a catalogue of appalling delays and breakdowns in communication, including a six-week delay in carrying out a valuation of the flat she and her partner, Kelth Robinson, were buying in Lewisham, southeast London, Ms Wingrove's mortgage application,

made at the end of July, was not processed until the end of September. Getting a mortgage should not have been difficult. Ms Wingrove is a teacher with a secure income and a clean credit record. The loan was being advanced on her income alone. She had no existing mortgage to pay off and she already banked with the Royal Bank.

This was partly why she chose to go for its first-time buyer discount deal, which offered 3.25 per cent off the bank's standard variable rate until August 1997. She said she wanted to move by the end of August. But two weeks into August, when Ms Wingrove telephoned to find out if the valuation had been done, she was told her application had been forgotten at the bottom of the pile". Every time Ms Wingrove contacted

the bank, she was passed from one person to another. She was unable to make inquiries through her branch in Manchester, but was forced to contact the Edinburgh head office. Staff failed to keep her informed.

Royal Bank this week apulogised to Ms Wingrove. It will pay £335 for twu months of lost discount, and E115 in partrepayment of the valuation fee.

Delve deeper into deals

hat you see may not always be what you get when it comes to get when it comes to mortgages. The windows of high street banks and building societies are festooned with advertisements promising huge discounts, cashbacks and low fixed rates. But borrowers must look further than the headline rate if they want to get the best deal, according to London & Country. the independent broker.

until recently have been re-served for first-time buyers, says Patrick Buntoo of London & Country. But mortgages have become more and more complicated as lenders try to beat their rivals.

lenders just according to rates only tell half the story, says London & Country's Phillip Cartwright. He favours a more detailed analysis of some of the best rates on offer:

Principality Building So-

ciety: 4.99 per cent discount until November L 1997. The low discounted rate is similar to others, but the base rate is very low at 6.49 per cent. The discount will cut the current rate to 1.5 per cent. The drawback is that buildings or buildings and contents insurance is compulsory.

National Counties Build-

ing Society: 2 per cent discount until March 1, 1999. This gives a rate of 4.99 per cent. Possibly the best deal of all because of a short redemption period. There is a lock-in period of only three years, rather than the five, six or even seven years applied by many lenders. The early redemption penalty during the discount

period is 90 days, rather than the ususal 180 days or reclaim of the total discount. After three years, you receive a loyalty discount. The only problem is that you must have a deposit of at least 10 per cent. Nationwide: 1.3 per cent discount for three years. This gives you a rate of 5.19 per cent. Again the society's low base rate of 6.49 per cent gives this the edge. Nationwide is committed to keeping its base

compusiory insurance, your valuation fee will be refunded

and you get back £300. Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Lenders are so desperate that they are offering to all borrowers rates which would

Mortgage tables ranking

rates low as a pledge of its support for mutuality, so even the variable rate would be a good deal. There is no

Save the savings twins

S avers beware. Among superior persons it has become fashionable to knock the most successful new savings vehicles of the past decade. In these put-downs, personal equity plans (Peps) and tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas) are lumped together as though they were interchangeable. They are not.

Tessas were brought in belatedly at the end of the last boom. Their direct aim was to divert potential current spending into savings by giving us a tax incentive to the up for longer casual bank and building society deposits. At the time, interest rates were high.

Peps offered tax incentives to tempt us to put more of our core savings into individual company shares. They aimed to complement privarisation by spreading mass share ownership to other UK quoted companies. There was also a political purpose: to give millions more people a direct stake in the profitability of British companies.

Predictably, things did not work as intended. By the time Tessas started up. boom was falling headlong into slump. eventually bringing deposit rates down in its train. Peps only took off when they were hijacked by the collective invest-ment industry. They have accelerated the drift from direct share ownership to trusts instead of reversing it. And single market rules require investment in all EU stocks to be treated equally.
As vehicles to encourage and channel

savings, however, they have proved so popular that each covers savings of about £30 billion. That popularity is now making them enemies. Peps and



Tessas both shelter investment income from tax. The more popular they are, the more tax revenue they cost. Like any tax break, this pushes tax rates higher than they need otherwise be. Blinkered tax cutters now see Peps and Tessas as middle-class fat-lambs to be plundered in the greater cause or be replaced by feebler schemes targeted at low earners.

Tax advantages were not, however, the only secret of success. Flexibility is just as vital. Money can be put in when it is available and is not tied up for ever. Peps, in particular, score more for simplicity than for tax advantages. This causes much tut-tutting among those who do not trust people with their own money. For them, flexibility makes Peps and Tessas too short term for real savings, allowing the irresponsible to blow the funds instead of using them for spcially reponsible purposes such as mid-life retraining or long-term care.

That logic would insist on savings vehicles that are so unpopular that

people must be coerced to use them. Naturally, all deny any such intentions in the run-up to an election. Tories insist that private pensions will remain voluntary, along with long-term care plans. Labour insists it will keep tax benefits for Peps and Tessas, though the latter might be brought into a new "individual savings account". If that is to be successful, it will need to be as flexible.

The more you think about pensions, the clearer it becomes that they are not the complete answer to everything. They can commit too much to purposes that are too narrow. They hinder the passing of wealth from parents to children. They cost many billions more in tax allowances, because contributions have to be tax-deductible to tempt people in.

ontributors cannot even be entirely confident that benefits due decades hence will emerge intact. The fundamental issue of how to draw income in retirement from pension savings is in flux. A bizarre alliance between the pensions industry and Trea-sury will probably sooner or later do away with tax-free lump sums.

Pensions are essential, but most people would be foolish to tie all their long-term savings in the pension straitjacket, still less into other more specific schemes. In the real world, there is no clear divide between short-term and long-term savings, more a spectrum in which people hope that their savings will become long term. In an age of uncertainty, simple, flexible, and demonstrably attractive schemes should be the backbone of any savings drive.



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Insurers display unhealthy habits

dwina Currie raised a rum-pus when she suggested that Northerners should swap fags and fried food for aerobics and fibre. A decade later, her controversial views on the un-healthy habits of those who live north of Watford still hold sway in some sections of the life insurance some sections of the life insurance industry. Surprisingly, some of those guilty of such prejudices are oot loog established groups but newcomers with a reputation for judging each case on its merits.

As we report below, Virgin Direct, a company that prides itself on

a company that prides itself on being different from the rest, quoted a higher life cover premium for a woman living in the North. Based purely oo her address, she was presumed to be less healthy than her

twin sister from the South West. These assessments were based on mortality statistics indicating that southerners are in less haste to



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH Personal Finance Editor

shuffle off this mortal coil. However, when you buy life cover you answer a number of questions about your health and lifestyle. These should be more bearing on the premium quoted than your address. But it seems that your whereabouts provide more com-pelling evidence of your life expectancy than your low-fat diet.

The conclusion of this new example of the north-south divide is that anyone arranging life insur-ance must ask the insurer whether

they operate a regional bias. Southerners should then take advantage of the lower rates on offer. North-erners should jog to a competitor.

Worth the wait?

BEFORE the recovery of the bousing market, building society bosses would wax lyrical on the subject of long-absent first-time buyers and pine for their return.

awaited improvement in prices has not been accompanied by a warm not been accompanied by a walling welcome for this important class of borrower. Weekend Money is receiving many reports of delays in the processing of applications from creditworthy candidates (see page 20)

It seems that some lenders see new customers as a disruption to the smooth running of their businesses, and much preferred the sluggish state of affairs when the market was in the doldrums.

THIS week five Morgan Grenfell executives were dismissed after the scandal that has surrounded the group's European unit trusts. Some left with six-figure sums in

their pockets. I hope that the 90.000 investors in these three trusts will also soon have news of their rightful compensation.

Gillian Barton offers a geographer's guide to life insurance

Regions to be cheerful

week. I discovered that I am 10 per cent more likely to meet with an untimely end than is my twin sister, Sue. It's not that she's a goody two-shoes and I spend my weekends taking bungee jumps and my nights in smokey clubs. Neither have I inherited some awful gene that has managed to bypass

No, my crime, in life insur-ance terms, is simply that I live in the North. We both have homes in leafy suburbs, but mine is on the outskirts of Huli and my sister's is close to Bournemouth. Because I live in Yorkshire and she lives in Dorset, telephone insurance firms like Virgin Direct and Direct Line want to charge me more for my life insurance.

We're not identical, but we are pretty much the same-weight and height. When we asked Virgin Direct and Direct Line for insurance quotes, we answered all the questions about our health, occupation, hobbies and lifestyle in the same way. However. Virgin Direct quoted me a premium of £17.04 for £100,000 of life cover. The quote for my sister was £15.53, around 9.7 per cent

At Virgin Direct, the further north you live, the higher the premium. The company says that it bases this stance on the mortality statistics.

"Almost all other companies risk pool," said Martin Campbell, product development manager at Virgin Direct. We have gone much further and believe we end up charging people a much more accurate premium based on their own specific circumstances.

tions, but we are still in a very competitive position. Where you live is just one of a number of factors. Others, like smok-



ing, will have a much bigger impact on the premium."

Over at Direct Line they take a similar view. "Yes, we along with a number of other factors," a spokesman said. But the average difference between areas is only about 2.25 per cent." Increasingly, insurers are

taking more into account than whether or not you smoke, "We do have regional variaand they look at other factors designed to offer more precise premiums, says Direct Line. Well. yes. But I still don't see quite how living in Yorkshire

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investment needs without the fees or the fuss.

makes me a worse risk than my twin in Dorset, so I turned to the experts for help.

Nick Dumbreck is an actuthe Association of Consulting Actuaries life insurance commince. He said: "Yes, there have been statistics published by the Government Actuary, based on census information. that show regional variations in mortality."

According to figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, female and mate mortality in Scotland is III per cent of the UK average. In the North West, male mortality is 106 per cent of the UK average, while female mortality is 108 per cent of the average. However, Mr Dumbreck added: "You cannot go on from that and say that everyone in Yorkshire is

one in Dorset. It all depends on different factors. "You have to answer a lot of questions when you apply for insurance over the telephone. These explicitly take into account your health and lifestyle. The big question is to what extent is where you live rele-

likely to die earlier than every-

vant on top of those factors." Telephone insurers can be very competitive - even

Northern blight: Gillian Barton at her home in Hull

though you may have to be under 40 and lead a quiet, healthy life down South to qualify for the cheapest premiims. The rest of

shop around.

This week GA Life cut its term insurance rates by up to 16 per cent. Its premiums now look particularly good value if you're the wrong side of 40 and want £100,000 or more of cover. GA Life discriminates between smokers and nonsmokers, but not on the grounds of where you live. The company would charge me £16.60 for my insurance.

nyone looking for life insurance should seek a quote from Equitable Life. The company does not pay commission, so it does not usually get a mention if you're buying from a financial adviser. Equitable Life does not care where you live - it does not even charge more if you smoke. So perhaps not sur-prisingly it was the most successful life insurer in terms of new regular UK premiums last year. My insurance at Equitable would cost £15.10.

Nigel Webb at Equitable Life says that more than 95 per cent of its term insurance is sold at standard rates. Only a

small proportiun of applicants have to pay more because of health or other problems.

Virgin Direct says that only 25 to 30 per cent of its quotes are at the standard rate. Everyone else has to pay more. So if you live north of Wasford. still have have not given up the dreaded weed, enjoy a drink or two and play rugby or go diving, watch out - all those factors can send your premiums soaring.

Paul Cooper, chief under-writer with M&G Re, pointed out that rates for individuals are often set according to the experiences of those on group

"Groups of blue-collar workers are more likely to smoke and have a worse diet than white-collar workers. You might see some marginal differences because of area.

"However, under these circumstances there would appear to be an element of double counting. It would seem to a somewhat specious

argument."
Swiss Re is also puzzled about why people in the north should be deemed to be a worse risk. A spokeswoman said: "Other factors such as family history, and smoking should be taken in 10 account."



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SCOTTISH WIDOWS



Caroline Merrell on how our top clubs have scored in big business

Football's no longer a funny old game

replace the victory chang we're on our way to Wembley" with "we're on the way to the bank".

BER id look

With multimillion-pound transfer deals becoming more common, the growth of payper-view TV for certain events. and merchandising, football looks poised to become a major industry. Rumours this week that

Manchester United, one of the seven clubs floated on the stock market or AIM, was a takeover candidate, pushed up its shares 32 per cent to nearly E6 a share.

The news also broke this week that Newcastle United, top of the Premiership, is lining up a £200 million float. The speculation about

Manchester had a greater effect on the share price than would normally be the case. The fact that the majority of the shares in football clubs are held by the fans and the directors means that the stock is illiquid and speculation has a greater effect on the price.

Manchester United was quick to play down the bid rumours, but a punter who bought shares in the club when it came to the market five years ago at 77 pence a share would be looking at an increase of more than 300 per cent on the investment.

Such is the interest in football that Nick Knight, securities specialist at the Japanese banking giant Nomura, has put together an index of traded football clubs - the NRI UK football index. Over the last year, the index has more than doubled in value - growth that far outstrips the rise in the stock market, which itself has had a record run.

The other floated clubs include Millwall; Leeds United. through its parent company Caspian: Preston North End; Chelsea, through Chelsea Village: Tottenham Hotspur aod Celtic. The total market capitalisation of the sector is around the £700 million mark. All, with the exception of Leeds, are showing a healthy return.

Shares in Chelsea Village, which was brought to the market in April of this year have risen more than 50 per cent, while shares in Celtic, floated around a year ago, have more than trebled in value.

Mr Knight believes that the sector could grow to be worth more than El billion over the next few years as clubs like Rangers, Sunderland, Leicester and Nottingham preparing to float.

Anyone, football fan or otherwise, should regard football club shares as a high-risk investment. On the whole, share prices will be linked to the performance of the players on the field.

For example, if a club looks poised to win a major domestic competition and entrance in to European competition a lucrative money spinner for most clubs - then the share price will rise. However, if the club goes though a bad patch, losing matches, managers or gets involved in a financial scandal, then the share price will fall dramatically.

The link between the team's performance and the share price is less marked for clubs which derive more income from other sources. For example, Chelsea Village, gets some of its income from leisure and sports clubs.

Tomura believes that income from broad-casting and pay-perview TV will in the future become more important to the financial fortunes of the clubs. In 1992 BSkyB contributed £300 million to the revenue of the top clubs. These television contracts have recently been renewed for £670 million.

Pay-per-view is also likely to improve the top clubs' fortunes. Chelsea claimed: "The new TV deal concluded by the Premier League should increase our TV income over the next four years, although this will be tempered by the increased player costs. The advent of digital or pay-per-view television should have a material effect on revenues." Nomura said: "Even the

most crude back-of-the-envelope calculations suggest that the upside is substantial and a long way from being recog-



Newcastle's David Ginola is one of an ever-increasing number of big-money imports

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Britain prepares to follow foreign policy

Britain is increasingly looking overseas for the way it will provide for its ageing population in retirement, with Latin America being held up as a model for pension provision.

Our system needs to be overhauled. There simply isn't enough money to maintain the traditional state pension in the long term - part of the demographic time bomb facing Western nations.

And so Britain, a country used to having its ideas about government copied overseas, is set to become an importer of foreign practices. Australia. Singapore. Zimbabwe are among those being studied. But what might be introduced? The most high-profile reconnaissance mission was carried out by an all-party group of MPs which went to Chile and Argen-

tina in the summer. Chile has one of the most innovative schemes in the world. Employers deduct 10 per cent of the first £14,000 of a worker's wage at source. This is deposited with a private pension fund administration company, which invests the money caudously in stocks and bonds under the ultimate supervision of the Government,

The worker can deposit an extra 10 per cent; again, the sum is tax-free. He or she is given a passbook and a threemonthly statement to monitor deposits and the performance the fund. If the worker thinks the money is not growing enough, he or she can switch to another fund administrator. Payments can be suspended, an attraction to women and those with irregular working patterns.

According to the founder of the scheme, José Piñera, the big attraction is that rewards are linked to the amount of effort put in, plus the freedom to determine when you retire and how you organise your working life. The disadvantages include high charges an extra 29 per cent of a Chilean's salary is taken to cover the administration.

Frank Field, the Labour MP who chairs the committee of politicians which went to Latin America, says too few people - 60 per cent - are eligible for Chilean pensions. He prefers what they saw in Argentina, a hybrid of the Chilean "pay as you go" system and British state provision.

uals to band together their contributions, as trade unions or other mutually aided organisations, yet promotes the idea of people being responsible for saving for their own pensions.

Outside Latin America, Asia has produced a few interesting possibilities. Singapore was discussed as a possible model for Britain earlier this year. Singaporeans save a phenomenal amount of money - they



in world terms, and the Gov-

ernment was keen to bolster

this," says Harris, who is involved in the OFT inquiry

into Britain's personal pension

A new way of funding

pensions was introduced in

Australia, which did not guar-

antee a fixed income in retire-

ment - like a government

version of a personal pension

scheme. A mandatory 3 per

industry

have to, the Government forces them to put 20 per cent of their income into a central provident fund which provides for their pension, with a matching sum paid in by their company.

Singaporeans can borrow against this fund when they want to buy a house, But it is harder for a citizen to monitor how the money is being invested because reporting standards are not as rigorous as Britain's. Nor does Singapore have a bond market points cent is deducted at source from

commodate career breaks and

family-raising.

Denmark is facing more trouble than most because of its extremely generous state provision. However, it has one strength. All complaints and queries about pensions are processed through one accessible ombudsman. Britain's complaints system, in comparison, is hopelessly fragmented and confusing.
The USA, which tends to

minimise state involvement in welfare, provides a final example of good practice. In the 1970s it developed individual retirement accounts for workers not covered by occupational schemes. Tax-deductible contributions are made, up to an annual limit. The pooled money is managed by a govare that contributions can be irregular - a boon to people with stop-and-go careers.

The contribution limits increase if you have a dependent partner, acknowledging, at least in a small way, the need to extend retirement planning to spouses. Contributors can also take out a loan to pay premiums when they are short of

Singaporeans save a phenomenal amount of money - they have to

out David Harris, a Churchill an employee's salary, matched research fellow from Austra- by 6 per cent from the employprovision around the world. This limits the domestic investments the provident fund can make, leaving it more

dependent on equities. Three other countries studied by Harris could have an influence on British pensions in the next century. Australia has tackled public apathy over retirement planning with a leaflet and public awareness campaign. "The Australians

can be increased voluntarily. On retirement, the accumulated money can be used to buy an annuity. Australia is also planning a retirement savings account,

which will have long-term tax breaks, like an extended version of a Tessa. Life insurance companies

are also thought to be consid-

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THE TIMES SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 1996

Birthday blues on retirement

illinns of people whose birthdays fall just before the end of the tax year in April find themselves compulsorily paying nearly a year's National Insurance contrihutions that will not count nowards their state pension. Jean Handley was one who found herself in this position:

l will be 60 on March 20. 1997, and am due to retire on that date. As I understand it, the National Insurance contributions you pay during the tax year in which you retire do not count towards your pension entitlement.

As my birthday is only 16 days before the start of the new tax year. I consider it may be advantageous to work an exira month until April 20 (which I have the option of doing) to take me into the new tax year and thus claim all my entitlement for the past tax year.

Having paid nearly one year's Naoonal Insurance contributions, it appears ridiculous that this may not be taken into consideration for your pension entitlement. Is this correct and will it be beneficial to me to work the

Weekend Money replies: Unfortunately, the NI contributions vou make between April

Field: sweeping changes



1996 and April 1997 will not count towards your pension. You will be 60 just before the end of that tax year and the rules say that contributions paid in the year you retire cannot be counted. At the same time, you connot opt out of making NI contribu-tions during this year. The Benefits Agency, which

is in chorge of paying out state pensions, says that working an extra month to push yourself into a new tax yeor would not mean you could reap the benefit of your Il months of "lost" contribu-tions. The key date is your 60th birthday, just before the end of the tax year, not the date you finish work.

If you do defer taking your pension for a month, you will get a miniscule increment in your payment. According to Benefits Agency: "For

1/7 per El of its weekly rate. This works out or about 7.5 per cent for a full year's deferral, so one month will not give much. If, for exam-ple, you were entitled to o pension of £40 a week, deferring it for 30 doys would give you increments of just 3p a

The Department of Social Security says it has always been the rule that only full years count towards your pension. It admits this is mainly for the benefit of its own internol administranon, but also argues that NI contributions cannot be directly matched up to your own pension entitlement. This is because the National Insurance fund works on a pay-as-you-go basis, which means that your contributions go straight out to pay benefits for today's pensioners rather than being invested for you



Labour vision of compulsory savings to pay for the future

grounds.

means-testing. At present, el-

get its hands on their inheri-

tance, creating a nation of

what Mr Field calls "dishonest

The insurance costs would

be offset by a cut of 4p in the

standard rate of tax, bringing

it down from 24p to 19p in the

S aving for the future could be compulsory for almost everyone in Britain under a radical vision of a welfare state unveiled by Labour's social security adviser. National Insurance bills would be higher, but income tax would be lower and every-

one earning more than £10 a week would have to make Everyone would be given a personal tax-free allowance of 66,000 a year, and those earning more than £15,000 would pay more towards wel-

fare and pension provision. Overall, taxes and compulsory contributions would rise by £3 billion a year. Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead and chairman of the social services select com-

mittée, proposes sweeping changes to the current system, which would create a new insurance-based tax system.

All earnings exceeding £10 a week would be included in the assessment, and the tax would be used to pay for half the expenditure of the National Health Service and a new insurance which would pay out for unemployment or when long-term care was needed.

Student grants would be replaced by student loans, and the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps) would be closed after 2000, From then onwards all employees would be required to contribute to their own pension.

People whose incomes are less than around £15,000 a year would make a net gain.

Every worker would have a basic National Insurance retirement pension, and those earning more than £100 a week would also make contributions to a second scheme. . .

Mr Field proposes setting up a mutually owned National Insurance corporation to orgapound. The starting rate of tax nise the care and unemploywould be 5p.

In his book, How to Pay for ment insurance schemes. One in six people need the Future, Mr Field sets out his belief that the current professional care at the end of their lives and he believes welfare system encourages people should buy insurance people to be dishonest and to cover this risk. Everyone penalises people, particularly the elderly, for saving throughout their lives. Welwould pay 3 per cent of their income towards this, and pension payments would be trigfare influences behaviour by when the person bestowing rewards (benefits) qualified for help on medical and allotting punishments floss of benefits). It should This would not involve openly reward work, effort,

derly people are means-tested. MARIANNE CURPHEY which has led to some giving away all their savings and assets rather than let the State

savings and honesty," he said.

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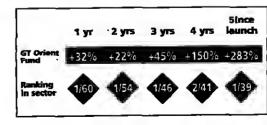
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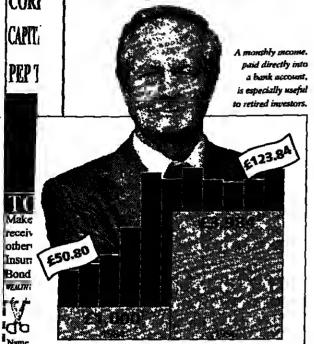
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Check your scheme will fulfil expectations, says Caroline Merrell

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1 October 1996, a £1,000 investment has grown In capital value to £3,984. The Fund has also made regular monthly income payments on this investment - shown as black bars above - totalling £50,80 in the first calendar year, rising to £123.84 last year, †

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would have trailed \$55.56 and totaled \$55.63 lest year.

Little performance. The value of units and income from them may fall as well as fee and investors may not get back their original inves

under which PEPs exit could change in the future, Frankegian Munithly Income PEP interests in the Frankegian Monthly Income Find to which the performance stated whites in order to minimise the level of income poyable, the annual management her is changed in capital instead of income learn 3/11/25. Minist the distributable income will increase by a conseponding as

Beware fool's gold



As many hidden dangers lurk on the road to a full pension as Dorothy and the Scarecrow found on the yellow brick road

benefits.

ike the crock of gold at the end of the rainbow, the maximum pension of two thirds of final salary is an illusion for most people very few actually manage to

reach this limit. Many remain in blissful ignorance about why they have failed to get as much as they could do from their pot. But as the safety net of state provision begins to fall away. this shortfall will become more apparent. From 1998, the value of the basic pension and State Earnings Related Pen-sion Scheme (Serps) will begin to shrink dramatically as a percentage of earnings. By the year 2020, its real value will have halved.

According to the latest statistics from the DSS, the number of pensioners with basic or 5erps pension in payment has risen from about 9.5 million to around 10.2 million over the last 10 years. The cost of these pensions has risen even more sharply during the last decade, costs have risen from £17,779 million to £30,146 million.

The retired population as a proportion of those in work is set to continue to rise, which is why the Government has been forced to instigate a series of cuts to state pensions.

Around a quarter of the 10 million in retirement receive less than £40 a week in state pension, while a little more than a third receive between £40 and £64 a week. Of those retired, 62 per cent receive some income from their occupational schemes. The average amount received from occupa-

donal schemes is £73 a week. Most people in this country are members of an occupational or company scheme, which will be designed to pay two thirds of final salary. To get this, you will usually have had to work at the company for 40 years continuously and will bave had to contribute 5 per cent of your earnings to the scheme, while your employer will have had to contribute 10

Under many schemes, the employer contributions may not be so generous and you may have to work longer to build up enough to qualify for the maximum pension. If you leave the company within two years, you are entitled to reclaim all your contributions. If you leave after two years. your pension rights are frozen. It is at this point that a discrepancy is likely to start to appear between the two-thirds finishing line and preserved

The value of this frozen pension is linked to inflation rather than to salary, and salaries tend to rise at a much faster rate than

In this day and age, the most likely scenario is that you will have been a member of more than one occupational scheme, so you could be unwittingly losing ground against the twothirds limit. If you want to find

out whether you are underfunded, you should contact an independent financial adviser, who should be able to work out the level of extra contributions you need to make.

It is worth noting that final salary schemes, which once comprised 90 per cent of all company schemes, are becoming passé. Many big com-panies, such as Zeneca and Philips, have begun to switch to money-purchase schemes --this is where there is a more direct relationship between the amount contributed and the amount you receive at the end.

Again it should be possible to find out whether you need to make more contributions, either by contacting the scheme advisers or by contacting an independent financial adviser.

Under-funding could be even more of a problem for the five million or so people who have opted to take out a personal pension. Many will have done so on the back of advice from financial advisers who have gone out of business or joined a life insurance company. Many may need to increase contributions, but no longer have an adviser to give them this advice.

According to figures from National Mutual Life, a 30year-old earning £30,000 a year should be paying £388 a month to their pension if they want to reach the two thirds limit. This excludes any pension which could be generated from a rebate from Serps, and assumes a return on investments of 9 per cent per annum.

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Exact age	Current ealary	initial monthly
et outset	2	premium £
20	15,000	138,14
20	20,000	183.95
20	30,000	274.90
30	15,000	195,04
20 20 30 30	20,000	259.00
30	30,000	388,61
35	15,000	237,83
35	20,000	314.40
35	30,000	473.58
40	15,000	296.48*
40	20,000	395.08*
40	30,000	- 588.80*

Virgin aims to keep things simple Tirgin Direct this week completed 15 years with Virgin Direct will grow to that it does not offer enough choice of

of a low-cost personal pension. It will be based oo the company's index tracking fund which has risen nearly 40 per cent over the 18 months since launch.

Virgin aims to address some of the main criticisms of the pensions industry by offering a simple-to-understand flexible product. The charges on the pension fund will cut the total returns by 10 per cent over the term of the policy. This is equal to the charges levied by Equitable Life, the lowest cost pension provider. For example, £250 a month invested for

its prodoct range with the launch £83,353 assuming a growth rate of 9 per investments. cent per annum, while the same amount invested in Equitable Life pension would grow to £33,800. The same premium in a Prudential pension, assuming the same conditions, would grow to £79,600. The charges levied by Prudential serve to cut

returns by 14 per cent. Other high charging offices include Barclays Life, GA Life and NatWest Life charges on these pensions will cut returns by 15 to 18 per cent. However, the Virgin pension has been attacked by some in the industry because they say

Keith Civval, of Save & Prosper Direct.

said: "The fund is more or less what we expected. Just investing in a tracker fund, though, we think is a bit narrow. We believe that pensions should have the option of investing in all sorts of asset classes including property. Virgin's pension does switch into its income protector fund 10 years from retirement to protect the fund from any sudden fall in the stock

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Student rebels against state handouts

Tor 2i-year-old Rebecca Brake, loans are a fact of life. Although her parents contribute to ber income, her small grant of £150 a term has meant that loans are a necessity.

Now in her third and final year of physiology and pharmacology at Kings College. London, Rebecca has taken out two full loans and is applying for her third. Although getting a loan each year has meant she will be about £6,000 in debt by the time she graduates, she also does part-time jobs, which has kept her out of trouble with her bank manager. So far she has no overdraft but expects to be about £500 overdrawn by next term.

Like many other students. she spent most of the summer on the less entertaining side of the bar and worked during the day as a temp. Now term has started, she is hoping to work one 12-hour shift a week as a nurse. Debts do worry me, that's why I work. They do hang over you but I don't like taking hand-outs," she said. People should not be put off from getting a loan. They are pretty easy to pay back. Although the myth of lay-

about studeots who blow their money on booze persists. Rebecca says they are in a minority. Most of her money goes on her £47 a week rent, closely followed by the £30 she allocates for entertainment Little is spent on food - £10 a week- but living in London, travel costs eat into the bank balance. In spite of such frugal living, she says it will pay off in the end.



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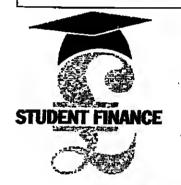
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Get a life with a loan

Susan Emmett says loans are one of the facts of life for students

cinema and regular Latrips to the Taj Mahal all cost money that students won't have if they rely solely on government grants. As grant money decreases, taking out a loan is becoming less of an option and more of a necessity, whether you are a hedonistic scholar or not.

pic

Student loans may not be popular and most students approach friends and family for their money or use their student overdraft before taking the plunge and getting a loan. Yet according to the National Union of Students, more than 50 per cent of students obtain a loan every year. "The number of students getting loans will increase," said the NUS. "It is impossible to live on the money they now get from grants. They have to get a student loan."

When they were introduced in 1990, loans were a way of filling in gaps left by the grants. Now nearly half the student's income comes from loans. For the 1996-97 academic year the basic amount available for those eligible for grants is £2,105 for London students, £1,400 for students living at home and £1,710 for

everyone else. Loans are roughly the same at £2,035 for students in London. £1,260 for those who live at home and £1,645 for others. But the amount available to final-year students is only £1.485 for London, £920 for students at home and £1.200 for the rest. This is because final-year loans are not meant to cover the summer holidays. You do not have to have a student grant to qualify for a student loan and students take out a loan and how much to borrow - up to the maximum amount set each year. Unlike grants, student loans are not means tested, your financial record is not taken into account, nor are your

future prospects. To be eligible for a loan, you must be under 50 at the start of your course and a full time undergraduate. Postgraduates are not eligible unless they are studying for a Postgraduate Certificate of Education. The student must also be a resident in Britain for three years before the start of their course. If you were out of the country because your parents were temporarily abroad, you will still be treated as an ordinary resident. Students who spend a year abroad either studying or working as part of their

course can also apply.

Provided you fit this mould,
all you need is a bank or building society account that can accept direct credits and pay direct debits as the money is paid straight into your account. There are no cheques in this process, just a little paperwork which you carry out at the university.

You can apply for a loan from the Student Loans Company, the body which administers the scheme, at any time during the academic year from the moment you start your course until the end of that year. Unlike a grant, you will need to reapply each year if you want a new loan. You also have the choice of being paid in one go or in instalments. But once instalments are set up you can not change your mind, nor can you apply for more money in the same

keohol, clubbing, gigs, themselves decide whether to year if you asked for less than the maximum amount.

The actual process of obtaining a loan is simple. But before you fill in any forms (you will have to complete two) find your birth or adoption certificate. You will need it to apply. You will also be asked for your local education authority award letter and proof of your bank or building society account number and sort code. If you were born outside the UK. you must bring your passport and a letter signed by a consulate officer, doctor, lawyer, teacher or police officer that gives your date and country of birth and your name when you were born.

Your application will then be checked and double-checked. Once everything is in order it can take up to three weeks for the money to appear in your account, so do not wait until you are on the breadline before you apply.

The downside to obtaining what looks like easy money is simple to predict. Well-seasoned graduates do sometimes tell tales of elaborate ways to avoid repaying their loans. But sooner or later the debt collectors will catch up with you. You might have changed address and bank account since obtaining your loan but the Student Loans Company ask you to give the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two other people as referees when

you apply for a loan. In any case, students don't have to start repaying their loans until the April after they finish their course. But if the money is burning holes in your pocket, you can always

start paying it back earlier. Provided you have a job that pays, the actual process of repayment is quite simple. The money flows out of your account as easily as it flowed in. You will usually pay back the loan by direct debit in a fixed number of monthly instalments. At present, most borrowers will pay 60 instalments of about £20 over five years. But repayment can go up to E70 a month if you studied for four to five years.

The good news is that you will not be charged interest for student loans. The amount you owe will be linked to inflation from the moment you take out the loan. The rate is constantly changing and the loans will be paid back at the current rate. Right now the figure is at 2.7 per cent.

The other bit of good news is that you can defer payment for a year at a time if you decide to do another course or if you're broke. Loans do not have to be paid back until you are earning 85 per cent of national average earnings or roughly £16,500 a year. But the Company might ask you for proof of this and may also want evidence of your likely income for the oext three months.

Being in debt is not ideal. An average student owes about £2,000 after his first year and the final sum can be as much as £8,000 but they are not alone. "Students spend on the usual things you would expect them to spend on," said Donna Spriggs, manager director of Reaction UK, a market research company specialising in the youth market "Most students are in debt but so is the vast majority of the



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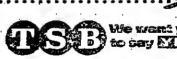
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leinwort Benson warning investors in its European Privatin Trust not to sell their because they could lose ey. The trust, which is in rocess of being broken nas about 70,000 inves-They must vote before ber 26 on whether they cash for their holdings, reinvest into one of three

f they choose to sell their COR lives before this, they will e a dividend due at the end

Kleinwort calls for patience

of November. They will also get only 97.5p for their shares, against 100p, if they wait for the trust to be reorganised.

Many people have not yet returned their voting forms. Those who fail to vote will automatically have their shares transferred into the European Privatisation Trust. Investors can vote to take cash or roll investments over into M&G's European trust.

GUINNESS FLIGHT has unveiled a fund which aims to exploit the anticipated growth in Far East economies. In particular, the fund will con-

THE NEW WOOLWICH DIRECT POSTAL 60 ACCOUNT

centrate on buying shares in

smaller companies.

The Asian Smaller Companies Trust will hold around 70 stocks in companies with a market capitalisation of be-tween US\$50 million and \$1 billion. Despite the proximity of the handover of Hong Kong back to the Chinese in 1997, the fund will be 43 per cent invested in Hong Kong

Phillip Saunders, Guinness Flight director, said: "Clearly some people are negative about the handover, whereas were are in the positive camp. I personally believe that a lot

of people are concentrating too much on the politics and not looking at the economies of the region.

The fund will invest in companies that have subsidiaries in China rather than Chinese companies that are listed on the Hong Koog stock

The fund manager is pinning some of its hopes for the fund on the growth of retail sales in China. For example, it pointed out that the People's Bank of China anticipates that by the end of the century 200 million people in the country will hold credit cards. country already has an estimated one million millionaires.

The fund will be managed by Nerissa Lee, the invest-ment director of Guinness Flight Asia. It will have the same investment strategy as Guinness Flight's offshore Asian Smaller Companies Fund. This fund is currently ranked fifth in its sector of 142 offshore funds since launch in

The other areas of the world in which the fund will invest include Singapore, Thailand Malaysia, the Philippines and

October 1995.

not invest in Korea, one of favourites of the other Far East specialists, because the companies tended to be large conglomerates. He said: "The investment strategy will concentrate on consumer-related stocks, electronics companies,

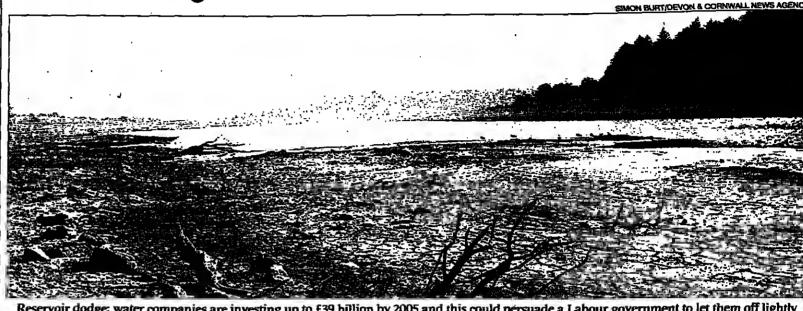
real estate and financial The fund has a minimum investment of £1.000, an initial charge of 5 per cent and an annual management fee of 1.5



CAROLINE MERRELL Hong Kong has a key role in Guinness Flight's new trust

Water can be good value despite droughts, says Matthew Wall

Slake your thirst for profits



Reservoir dodge: water companies are investing up to £39 billion by 2005 and this could persuade a Labour government to let them off lightly

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The water regulator's plans for an unscheduled price control review of the 29 water and sewerage companies in England and Wales in 1999 has further depressed an already gloomy sector. Ian Byatt, the regulator, wants efficiency savings to be passed on to customers. Bills are now a third higher in real terms than at privatisation. Unlucky customers of South West Water have seen their average water

terms to £193 since 1989. A regulatory crackdown and the prospect of a Labour government imposing a windfall tax of up to £5 billion on utilities generally has contributed to water stocks signifi-

bill double in real terms to

£124 and their average sewer-

age bill soar 72 per cent in real

cantly underperforming the rest of the market this year. But on closer inspection of the sector, which has a market capitalisation of £13 billion and turns over more than ES billion, the market's pessimism presents good buying opportunities for investors.

Water shares yield 6.4 per cent on average - on a par with bonds and gilts. Significant dividend growth is still on the cards, in spite of the uncertain climate. United Utilities for example, which comprises North West Water and Norweb, is committed to an 11 per cent annual dividend rise, even after inflation, up to the year 2000. And Yorkshire Water is committed to a share buy-back that should enhance dividends.

Some analysts argue that a

windfall tax is unlikely to be so puniove that it jeopardises Labour's hard-won image as a friend of the City. The water companies' investment programme totalling £39 billion up to 2005, prompted by several European directives stipulating water quality improvements, should also persuade a Labour government to treat

the sector more lightly than electricity, despite the "fat cat" scandals and drought debacle. John Hatherley, head of research at M&G, the unit trust group, said: "The market has taken an unduly pessimistic view of utilities this year. That makes them good value." He likes Anglian Water for its good management in one of the UK's driest areas. It has also resisted a move into unrelated businesses, unlike

Thames Water, for example, which wrote off £95 million when it left contracting.

Another favourite is Severn Trent Water, so long as it does not pay too much for South West Water. Its prospective bid for SWW is still being investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, as is Wessex Water's intended bid for the same company. The sector has seen a flurry of takeover activity. Northumbrian Water was swallowed by Lyonnaise des Eaux, United Utilities. Hyder and Scottish Power formed multi-utilities, and Mid-Kent Water, the water supply company, is being pursued jointly by General Ut-

But industry observers believe activity is likely to tail off

lities and Saur, two French ut-



as the election approaches. Investors should not ignore the smaller water supply companies, such as East Surrey and South Staffordshire. They may not yield as much as big water and sewerage companies, but their lower investment needs give more freedom

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Leading ladies: Tessa has proved as big a star with the public as Nastassia Kinski in the title role in the film Tess

The Building Societies Association is renewing its call for the Chancellor's next Budget to equalise the tax breaks enjoyed by taxexempt special-savings accounts and personal equity

It wants the Government to remove the special tax treatment from all existing investments. Instead, it suggests the introduction of a new personal allowance which can be set against all types of investment income. People would then be free to choose how much to invest in deposits, equities or fixed-interest securioes.

However, the societies believe that it is unlikely that the Chancellor will make any real change to the rules governing Tessas.

The Tessa, introduced when interest rates were at their peak in 1991, has caught the imagination of the investing public. The number of accounts has climbed from 2,082,000 in March 1991 to 4.538.000 at the end of December 1995. The amount invested has mushroomed from E5 billion to E28 billion at the end of last year — £19 billion was invested through building so-cleties, with the remaining £9 billion through banks. However, Inland Revenue

IN FOCU

statistics show that the amount given away in tax breaks on the accounts is likely to fall from £450 million this because of the overall drop in interest rates.

Most financial advisers agree that if you have any sort of savings at all, you should consider opening a Tessa providing you are not averse to keeping your savings locked up for five years.

The Revenue rules allow you to invest a total of £9,000 in a

Tessa. If you have had a Tessa before, you can reinvest £9,000 in a follow-on Tessa. If you have not had a Tessa, you can invest £3,000 in the first year, followed by up to £1,800 in each of the next four years, or a total of £9,000 by the final year. You can withdraw an amount equivalent to the interest earned without the tax break.

The first decision to make when deciding which Tessa to take out is whether to opt for a fixed-rate account or a variablerate account. Which to go for depends on your view about the direction of interest rates.

At the beginning of this year, when the huge amount of original Tessa money came to maturity, the best fixed rates & Coseley, Market Harborough and First Direct. were about 7 to 7.5 per cent, as were the best variable rate accounts, Since then, the interest rates for variable-rate Tessas have dropped slightly.

For example, the Nationwide Building Society cut the variable rate on both its products on September | after the base

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BEST FOLLOW-ON TESSAS

Min deposit

£9,000

000,02

£3,000

29.000

rate cut earlier in the year -rates dropped by 0.35 per cent on maturity. It is also important to note any penaloes which could be applied should to 6.15 per cent. The Nationwide Tessa does include a you want to switch your maturity bonus of 2 per cent. According to Moneyfacts, the best fixed-rate accounts for As can be seen from the Best Buys table, bigger is not those saving in a Tessa for the

teed £12,895 on maturity.

As well as considering

whether to opt for a fixed or

variable-rate account, poten-

tial Tessa savers should look

at the exact structure of the

interest rate payments. Many

offer tiered rates and bonuses

7.20% 90 day loss of interest

7.00%1 2 mnths notice, +£25 tee

7.45%F 180-day loss of interest.

7.45% P 28-day notice, 180 day loss of interest

7.45%P*180 day loss of interest

7.90%F* Up to 180 day loss of

always better when it comes to finding the right account. Some of the smaller building first time include accounts from Natwest Bank, York-shire Building Society, Sun societies will offer some of the Bank Corporation, Bank of A Which? analysis of matur-Ireland and Birmingham Midshires. For example, those saving the full £9,000 in a

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ing Tessas carried out at the beginning of the year showed that the building societies on average offered better rates Natwest Tessa will be guaran-Moneyfacts says that the than the banks, and that there best variable-rate Tessas. was a difference in maturity apart from those mentioned in values of £3,500 between the the table, are offered by the best and worst performers. Marsden, Principality, Tipton

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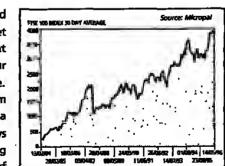
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The Bond is a no-risk, single lump sum investment with a fixed five year term. It offers a return of 50% gross* if the FTSE 100 Index stavs the same or rises. For example, by investing £1,000 now you could receive a taxable return of



£500 plus your initial investment after 5 years. Even if it falls your initial investment will be returned in full.

And as you can see from the chart the FTSE 100 Index has grown consistently over every five year period since it began.

So the Guaranteed Capital Equity Bond from Britannia really does offer the opportunity for an excellent return whilst keeping your initial investment completely safe.

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POST TO: Britannia Building Society, FREEPOST (15796). Dept. CO82, Britannia House, Leek, Staffs ST13 5BR. No stamp needed. You may wish to use first class post to the address above for a speedier return. ay use this information to provide me with details on both the Society's and its subsidiary companies' pr

which it feels may be of interest to me. If you do not wish to receive such details please tick this box. \Box



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The Equitable Life

Customers looking for more than a

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current account, Barclays Additions.

The latest addition to the world

of personal banking, Barclays

Additions, is now available to

Providing services well beyond the scope of a traditional current account, Barclays Additions was created after extensive research

Barclays Additions offers a broad range of

value added benefits, suitable for many types

of people, particularly couples faciog the

rising cost of bringing up children.

The extra services provided by Barclays
Additions include a £100 overdraft, purchase
protection for most items over £50 bought

with a Barclays Connect card, a Will Writing Service, life assurance and discounted

healthcare cover for children. The account

provides a complete financial package of

benefits for a monthly fee of just £5. For a typical couple with two children this adds up

Customers successfully applying for Barclays Additions henefit from a £100

overdraft, with oo usage fees or interest and an automatic authorised overdraft, with no

moothly usage fees. The personal overdraft limit agreed by Barclays could be up to £5,000,

Access to Barclaycall telephone banking provides a host of services 365 days a year - for

example customers can check their balance,

transfer money between accounts or pay hills

at times that suit them. A Barclays Connect

card with £100 cheque guarantee facility is also provided. These services are designed to

help make money management easy and

For customers who shop with a dehit card, another account henefit is purchase protectioo

for most Barclays Connect purchases between £50 and £15,000. Items bought with Barclays

Connect are protected against loss, theft or accidental damage for 100 days from the date

of purchase, provided they are not covered by

any other insurance. Barclays Cardholder

Protection is also included with Barclays

depending on individual circumstances.

to a potential saving of £240 in a year.

customers nationwide.

into what customers want.

You profit from our principles

Sarah Jones warns those tempted to buy gold coins as Christmas presents

Golden daze from gold fever

f you are tempted to buy a few gold coins, do not let the romance and nostalgia of it all blind you to the real risk you are taking. Gold coins are made of gold - an extremely volatile market. While many may huy a sovereign or two to put away for their grandchildren, any investment strategy should be more short-term since the price of coins is largely influenced by the price of gold, which has fallen 44

per cent over the past 16 years.

"You think of shares rising steadily over a long-term period, but gold is not consistent like that. It is wise to track the market and if you see a rise take advantage of it," said Nigel Tooley, director of bullion at Spink,

"In January this year, gold was about £248 an ounce, in February £275. So if you had bought and sold

within that month you would have seen a good profit. But over the long term the pattern is not so encouraging. In the boom of 1980 gold was term the pattern is not so encourag-ing. In the boom of 1980 gold was £377 an ounce, today it is at an all time low for this year of £241, so obviously you would make a sub-stantial loss if you sold oow. However. it may be a good time to buy, though you cannot tell how low the

Coin prices change from day to day. To check you are getting a fair price, ask two or three dealers for their price that day. Dealers' comon, whether buying or selling, is built into the price. Certain coins sell at a small premium over their gold cootent, such as Krugerrands and modern sovereigns, and are referred to as "bullion coins". So, for example, the gold in a sovereign is currently just under £57 but it will

according to the number of coins you

are buying or selling. Sovereigns and the South African Krugerrands are the most commonly traded coins. Other coins, such as the Britannia, the Canadian Maple Leaf and the Chinese Panda, which are harder to come hy, will have a higher

ew rules on VAT from early last year mean that you should be able to buy a second-hand gold coin without pay-ing VAT, with the dealer paying VAT on the dealer's overall sales margin. You normally have to pay 17.5 per cent VAT on the whole cost of a new coin. The dealer margin scheme for

second-hand coins is optional so always check that the price you are quoted includes any VAT and that you are not paying VAT on the whole price. The price of a sovereign could vary between £61 including VAT on the dealer's margin and £71.68 with

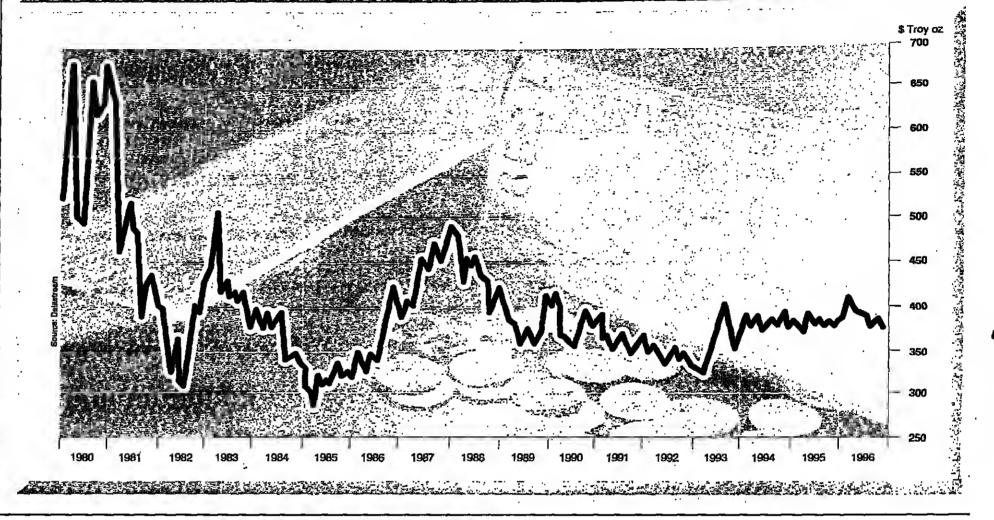
It is advisable to use a dealer registered with the British Numismatic Traders Association, and to avoid schemes which purport to invest in a portfolio of rare coins on your behalf. The chairman of one such company. Rare Coin Investment, was recently jailed for six years for defrauding clients. Coins as an investment are oot covered by the Financial Services Act. so investors cannot claim under the Investors

Compensation Scheme. For a list of coin dealers, many of whom trade by mail order, send an SAE to the British Numismatic Traders Association. PO Box 474a. Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 OWJ. The trade press carries details of

forthcoming coin fairs. Gains you make on the sale of coins are liable to capital gains tax. If the coins are a gift to a child, any gains will come under his or her own CGT allowance as long as the coins

are actually handed over to the child. "Most people huy coins as presents." said Stephen Fenton, uf Knightsbridge Coins and chairman of the BNTA. "I couldn't recommend coins as a great investment since it all depends entirely on the price of gold. Wheo I started 30 years ago a sovereign cost £4. In 1980 it was up to £100 and since then has fluctuated around £45-£60. But who can tell what will happen to gold over the

HOW THE PRICE OF GOLD BULLION HAS FALLEN OVER THE PAST 16 YEARS



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AN ACCOUNT **FAMILIES** CAN BANK ON



The new Barclays Additions account gives you more control, convenience and security

Additions, so a single free phone call is all that is oeeded to cancel lost or stolen cards. All dehit and credit cards belonging to the account holder and their partner are covered, even if they don't have a joint account. Barclays Additions also features a Will

Writing Service which could benefit many customers. A recent NOP survey of 1,000

adults revealed that 75% of people who have children said they do not have a Will. Customers automatically receive £5,000 of life assurance cover and no declarations or medical examinations are required (death from natural causes within the first six months of opening the account is oot covered). The cover is valid for account

holders under 60 and for a joint account both partners have £5,000 of cover each.

A legal helpline provides customers with telephone access to solicitors and legal executives 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Typical calls answered by the service are abou property disputes, insurance advice and

employment issues. Heavily discounted healthcare cover for children is also exclusively available with Barclays Additions. Families who open a Barclays Additions account can capitalise oo this extra benefit at just £2.50, per child, per month. This cover provides access to Key Plan for Youth from PPP healthcare and is available exclusively for children of Barclays Additions account holders.

Barclays Additions is available alongside the Barclays Bank Account and offers ten additional benefits. It is likely to appeal to a broad range of customers and is of particular value to families as the benefits provide extra financial control, security and peace of mind.

Research hy Barclays Bank revealed that more than one in three customers, regardless of their current bank, would like an account which offers more than the traditional service. Whilst Barclays remains committed to continuing to offer free day-to-day banking, Gordon Rankin, Director of Personal Banking, said "Barclays Additions is a current account with value-added services which are attractive to many customers. Take up levels in the pilot regions have been more than twice what we anticipated proving there is real demand for a current account of this kind. We expect to attract many new customers from

Barclays Additions

More information about Barclays Additions is available through local branches of Barclays Bank or by calling freephone 0800 00 10 11

PAYING IS PAINLESS WITH **BARCLAYS CONNECT**

The Barclays Connect card, issued with Barclays Additions, is a multi-function card providing the Additions, is a multi-function card providing the easiest possible way to pay. Barclays Connect is a debit card enabling customers to pay for goods and services wherever they see the VISA or DELTA signs. To pay, the customer hands over their card and the money is taken directly from their current account, no cheques to write, no monthly hill, just easy paying. But, for customers who still want to write a cheque, Barclays Connect carries a £100 cheque guarantee facility.

EASY SWITCHING TO BARCLAYS

To make opening an account at Barclays even

easier, à new account transfer service has been

transferring across all direct debits and standing

orders to the customer's new account. Customers

will be kept informed at all stages about how

things are progressing. All that is required from the customer is their signature and time to check

Barclays is the first high street bank to introduce a transfer service which doesn't require

the customer to fill in forms. This is in direct

CALLS OF CONVENIENCE

Barclaycali telephone banking, one of the features of Barclays Additions, could

revolutionise the way many customers manage

their money. Telephone banking is rapidly becoming one of the high street bank's most

in the morning until late at night to access a range

of hanking services - including checking their

balance, paying bills, changing standing orders and

direct dehits and transferring money from one account to another. For customers with a husy lifestyle Barclaycall could be the solution to many

Barclaycall boasts a 98% satisfaction rate amongst its users and calls in the UK are charged at the local rate. Customers can continue to use the Barclays network of around 2,000 branches as well

With Barclaycall, customers can ring from early

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response to eustomer research.

Connect carries a £100 cheque guarantee facility.
Customers can also use Barclays Coopect to
obtain mooey from cash machines in the UK and obtain mooey from cash machines in the UK and ahroad hy simply keyiog io their PIN number. By inserting their Barclays Connect card into any cash machine displaying the VISA sign the customer can withdraw up to £300 a day io local curreocy, or they can use it to pay io shops and restaurants. Barclays Connect can be used in over 250,000 cash machines worldwide and is accepted as payment io over 12 millioo outlets. Any transactions made whilst abroad or io the UK will appear oo the customer's oext curreot account statement. customer's oest current account statement.

*Barclays Additions and overdraft applications are subject to status. Customers must be 18 or over (20 in Jersey). Charges and interest rates may vary at the Bank's discretion. The monthly interest rate is 1.45% (18.8 % EAR) for authorised overdrafts. 2.0% (28.8% EAR) for unauthorised coordrafts and excesses over any agreed limit. Unanthorised overdraft usage feet and all interest are charged to your account wouthly. A month reject to a monthly charging period and not calendar months. Any payment causing an excess over your agreed limit is payable at the Bank's discretion. Interest is calculated on the cleared balance on your account. You will be given at least 14 days' advance notice on your nationess of any unauthorized overdraft feet and any interest to be debuted to your account. Overdrafts are repayable on demand. A unruen quantum it available from your local branch of Barclays Bank PLC or from Barclays is a responsible lender and when considering your application for borrowing, your financial curenastances will be appraised. And remember if you should run into difficulties, please contact us immediately.

EAR = Equivalent Annual Ruse. *Barclays Additions and averdraft applications are subject to status. Customers

ENJOY ALL THESE BENEFITS

■ £100 overdraft - with no interest or usage charges Automatic authorised overdrafts without a usage fee. Interest

will be charged only on the amount over £100 overdrawn* ■ Purchase protection for most Barclays Connect debit card purchases over £50

■ Will Writing Service

■ Automatic £5,000 life assurance cover, £5,000 each for joint

account holders

■ Barclays Cardholder Protection

■ Healthcare cover for children under 21, exclusive to Barclays Additions at a specially discounted rate of £2.50, per child, per month

■ 24 hour legal helpline

■ Barclays Connect card with £100 cheque guarantee facility

■ Barclaycall telephone banking

■ Customers who accidentally exceed their agreed overdraft limit for up to two working days a month will not be charged an unauthorised overdraft fee, only interest is payable*



PROVIDING VALUE FOR MONEY

Customers taking full advantage of the benefits offered by a Barclays Additions account can make a realistic saving of £240 in a year.

CASE STUDY

Barclays Additions is chosen by a couple in their early 30s with two young children. They have an agreed overdraft on their joint account because they regularly overdraw at the end of the month before their salaries are paid in. If they took advantage of the added value features from Barclays Additions, their potential saving in a year could be:

Authorised overdraft usage fees with a Barclays Bank Account Interest on overdrafts up to £100

Healthcare cover for two children £LQ8 2 Mirror Will which reflects the wishes of

£3 1

Using the helpline could save around £100 per hour in legal fees and there is also the added security of purchase protection on most Barclays Connect purchases over £50 which could save

Estimated saving on life assurance for both £22 3

Joint Cardholder Protection £13

£5 monthly fee for Barclays Additions - £60

£300

Total Potential Saving

Potential saving in a year

the cost of replacing items which are lost, stolen or accidentally damaged within 100 days.

Customer with a Barclaya Bank Account overdraws up to £100 for 5 days a month.

No standalone PMI policy is available for children but the market forecast value is 17 per child per month, therefore the potential saving is £4.50 per child.

Usually subject to a minimum premium and age/health declarations. The estimated saving of £11 each per annum is based on an assumed market value for ES,000 of cover.

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WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Unconvinced about the benefit to members of Norwich Union flotation

From Mr B.G. Rees

Sir. I have just received a copy of the minutes of the latest annual meeting of the Norwich Union, which I attended last May, travelling 300 miles to do so.

Having examined them carefully, I can find absolutely no mention of the specific objections I, and others, raised against possible flotation in respect of the well-being of both members and staff.

Obviously the opinions of members such as myself were considered of little account and disposed of accordingly.

The group chief executive lays great store on vulnerabili-ty of the life fund to its general business interests, yet it can be no more at risk from that direction than from a stock market crash or poor investment performance.

Indeed, it is only three or four years since the life fund suffered enormous losses (several hundred million) on its disastrous property portfolio. Flotation will do absolutely nothing to reduce that kind of investment risk.

Expert commentators are already advising that post flotation, Norwich Union premium rates are likely to rise; and with future shareholders taking 10 per cent of the returns on the life fund, the prospect for younger current policyholders, and those of the future, are not attractive.

They could soon knock a hole in a £500 "inducement" to change - and financed from members' funds, anyhow!

As a policyholder for well over 20 years, and with maturing policies in the offing, I may draw attractive payouts from demutualisation with little downside risk of poorer policy value in the future.

However. I like to believe that the advancement of self is not yet all-pervasive and I am just as concerned about the prospects for my son and others like him in their twenties, rather than those of us in our fifties.

The Norwich Union appears to be declaring the largest possible constituency to maximise the "yes" vote. Those with no variable investment content whatsoever in their policies and with guaranteed returns; will have a vote. They will invariably vote in favour. because it gives them an unexpected windfall not available in any other way.

The board announcements by Norwich Union have emphasised the future potential holders.

Little has been heard of potenoal benefits for those recommending the changes share handouts and options for directors and tenior management, the remuneration policy for senior employees moving into the "private" secfor and the fees to be paid to the merchant banks. Another pack of "lat cats" in the offing?

Let members have a declaration of any such matters which can be legitimately regarded as "vested interests"

benefits for members/share- of those recommending the

change. The returns on NU withprofit policies have fallen in recent years - way down the "league tables" on which they once laid great store. Maybe if the board had addressed this issue, il may have given members and the wider community far better returns than this grandiose scheme Yours faithfully. BRIAN REES.

Calculation too complicated for savers

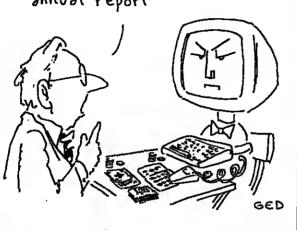
From Mr S.J. Getrard Sir. Why cannot all building societies show the annual interest paid each month with the rate applying at that time, instead of a oneline entry in the passbook for interest received over the whole year. It is extremely difficult for the average individual to calculate how

much interest he should have earned in a year, his whole interest entitlement over 12 months, as rates vary over the period. This would allay any suspicion lurking in investors' minds. Yours faithfully. STANLEY GERRARD. 34 Ash Grove,

Sarn Bridgend,

Mid Glamorgan.

I'd prefer my winnings now ... rather than in the old annual report



Landlords fear losing the possession game

From Mr G. Cutting Sir. There are still serious problems in the residential letting market, and it was timely that Sara McConnell should highlight them (Warning for new wave of landlords. Weekend Money, October 12). The risk/reward ratio is becoming steadily more adverse and the legislative framework positively encourages the de-

faulting tenant to play the possession game. Landlords

only seek possession for good reason but when, exceptionally, they do the process should be speedy and certain after the due notice, which is usually at least two months. Delays in possession encourages tenants to default and deters responsible landlords from letting. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY CUTTING. Chairman,

Small Landlords Association, 53 Werter Road, SW15.

Raw deal for the disabled

From Mr R. Ward

Sir. Actions to deny the disabled equal rights with ablebodied people continue to abound, and as Richard Brewster, chief executive of Scope. points out (Weekend Money Letters, October 5), even when the Government, through the Disability Discrimination Act. takes steps to put matters right, exemptions and qualifications allow and endorse the continued discrimination.

There is no worse example than that of the building societies, especially those planning to conven to banks. Because many disabled people do not have the ability to manage their own accounts, members of their family, friends or care workers operate their accounts for them. In many cases such accounts have been opened in the name of the helper who operates the account with the disabled person's name being placed second.

However, societies say that, on conversion, bonus shares will only be given to the first named on an account. They then further tighten the screw by adding that where a person has two or more accounts in their name, only one account will qualify for bonus.

Pity the disabled. First they will have to depend on the good nature of their helper to transfer the bonus shares obtained on their personal savings. Secondly, they have to hope that the helper does not also

have a personal account of his or her own at the same building society because if they do . . . well you can guess

who will keep the shares. This is so patently unjust that you would think that once the societies realised the situation they would take steps to remedy it. Instead, they hide behind claims that they are bound by legislation and "legally their hands are tied". This is untrue. According to Angela Knight, MP, Treasury Minister responsible for building societies, there is

allowing bonus shares to be given to members "in particuar circumstances". The Halifax reassures us that "we are not trying to discriminate", but admits that its disabled clients will miss out on share allocations. The Alliance & Leicester, meanwhile, says "it is in the best interests of members not to alter the present system". Pre-sumably they have the vote of

already legislation in place

their members to back that? In the face of such humbug and cant, one might ask the chief executives of these societies — if they have any concern for their disabled investors what legislation they would like to see enacted so they can pay bonus shares to them? RAYMOND WARD. 25 Abbey Mill Lane. St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Commission ensures that independent financial advisers are 'salesmen' too

From Mr P. Sutton

Sir, In Weekend Money Guide 2, you say: "Salesmen who may also be known as . . , tied agents can advise on the investment schemes of only one company. An independent financial adviser is able to advise on the schemes of many

This is true, but it does not ensure that the independent financial adviser will always advise impartially. Most inde-

pendent financial advisers are commission-based; they must sell to live, so they are just as much "salesmen" as is the oed

The title "adviser" is, in this respect, misleading and the client is well advised to bear this in mind. Yours faithfully PETER SUTTON.

9 Fairview Drive, Southampton

Woolwich insurance renewal is interest free

From Mr C. Crouch Sir, I refer to a letter from Mrs J Lee (No excuse in the computer age for these charges, Weekend Money Letters, September 28). Where an insurance renewal is debited to a Woolwich mortgage account on September 29, interest is not charged on the outstanding premium for the following year.

Although the premium for this renewal date is included in the balance at the mortgage

year-end, September 30, it does not form an integral part of the balance for the purpose of calculating interest for the following financial year, Interest would only become payable if the premium remained unpaid by the following year end. Yours faithfully,

CHARLES CROUCH. Woolwich Building Society, Corporate Headquarters. Watling Street. Bexleyheath, Kent.

Conversion share windfalls effectively prevent long-term borrowers from selling their property

From Mr H.N. Macdonald Sir, Some months ago 1 Halifax insisted that they asked the Halifax Building would have to retain posses-Society how I could remain sion of the deeds of the qualified for the free shares property! to be distributed upon their Particularly in view of the

to retain a debit balance of at least £100. With this in mind, I have just sold my flat, but on attempting to leave this mini-

conversion to a public cominexplicably long run up to pany if I redeemed my 18conversion the Halifax should year-old mortgage. I was allow lang-term borrowing informed that I would need members who redeem mort-gages on the sale of their property during this period to simply maintain an unsecured loan of £100, or at least to

secure this relatively insignifi-

the state of the second second

mum balance outstanding, the cant sum in some other k punitive way. It seems quite unreasonal

for such borrowers to effectively barred for the years from selling their pro erty and redeeming the mortgage on penalty of losir out completely on the fr share distribution. Yours faithfully, HENRY MACDONALD. Isla Cristina 14-3c, 28035 Madrid,

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Please tick appropriate box: t/We enclose a cheque for £ (min £5000) made payable 10 Derbyshire Building Society, to be invested in the Derbyshire Peak Bond issue 5 account D Please send further details of The Derbyshire Peak Bond Issue 5 account .

Address: Postcode: Please note. We will send you an investment account opening form when acknowledging your cheque. Please note. We will send you an investment account opening form warm acknowledging your eneque.

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market, A Guide to Stock-picking reveals their secret. The book guides the investor through listed stocks and advises on how to time purchases and sales to best advantage. The winning strat-egies of some of the world's best-known investors are exposed and the book suggests how you can adapt these tools and techniques to your own investments. To be published on November 7, priced £14.99.

BLICK ROTHENBERG, the chartered accountant, has produced a concise explanation of the new system of selfassessment, in its leaflet Self Assessment — An Easy Guide.
The guide includes a list of dates to remember in the countdown to the submission of your tax return. Call 0171 544 8858 for а сору.

NATWEST has published a free guide to help investors who are considering guaranteed and protected investments. The guide explains some of the main types of product available, how the guarantees work and what they are worth. For a copy of Guide to Guaranteed Investments, call 0800 255200.

LIZANNE ROSE

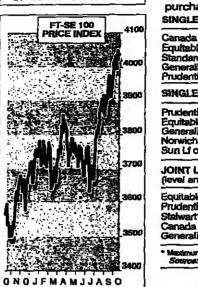
FIXED RATE

SAVERS BEST BUYS INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS Deposit 4.80 5.40 5.85 6.05 Teachers' BS 01202 887171 Bullion €500 Alliance & Leic BS 0645 228858 Bristol & West BS 0800 901109 Instnt Direct Inst Acc Post Inst Acc Post £5,000 Posta £10,000 £25,000 Bristol & West BS 0800 901109 NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS paid Account ol term Deposit Rate Yly Yly Yly F/OM Direct 30 Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Fxd Rate Bond 30 day p 20 day p 20 day p 31.3,98 £100 £2,500 £25,000 £5,000 5.50 9.10 6.40 Cheltenham & Glos 0800 717505 Nottingham BS 0115 9564422 Nottingham BS 0115 9564422 6.60 Yorkshire BS 0800 378836 Interest Notice FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE) Rate paid Account Deposit F/Yly F/Yly Yly Yly 7.45 7.30 7.00 6.80 NatWest Bank 0800 200400 £5,000 Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505 Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721 Principality BS 01222 344188 £8,575 £1,000 £500

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000 Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024 Royal Bank of Scotland 01702 349393	Advantage Visa MasterCard/Visa Visa/WorldwideM	0.64%NC 0.90%C 0.935%N	7,90%N 11,20% 12,90%N	Nii Nii £10
£?	AL COANS B	ESTEUY	S	200 (1) 2-32 (1)
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payme with insurance	ent on £3,00 no	0 for 3yrs insurance
Direct Line 0141 248 9966 Alliance & Leic Grp 0116 2626262 Midland 0800 160160	13.90%E 14.80% 14.90%	£112.8 £114.9 £115.8	3	£101.33 £102.36 £102.49

Nb. C = nc interest free period, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, <math>F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), N = Introductory rate for a limited period, P = By Post only * RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING Jource: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01892 500 677)

BASE RATES V 15 MORTGAGES 9.	NATIONAL SAYINGS
14	Gross At tax rates Mm/maximum rate 20% 40% Investmnt £ Notice
Halitax mortgage 10	Ordinary A/c 1.50 1.20 0.90 10-10,000** 1mth 10-10,000** 1mth 10-10,000** 1mth 10-10,000** 1mth 10-10,000 10-
Classing banks 6	Inst 270 (£140 g) of int law free, inst accs for up to £100 * Acidinonal hidge retireated proceeds 117 in free * Rates gross and viole countritieed who files for £20,000 + £100,000 g in addition to £1 and £5 hold cred in tall 1500-100,000 earn higher rates. * Thereof rates apply
91 92 93 94 95 96	All figures are the gross annual annuity (£1 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly i



until 1,10.97 High equity dsc 6% to 1.10.97

100-250,000 100-10,000 500-50,000 o to £100 * Add s and whe * Guar addition to \$1 a Triend rates ap	Bday C 60day C monal Hogs ut ranteed when and S2 holding ply	9845 645000 9845 645000 9645 645000 9 to 220,000 to held for 5 years ps *Taxable bu
500-50,000 to £100 * Addi and vote sisual addition to \$1 a Triend rates ap	tional hidgs up ranteed when and SC holding ply	645 645000 to 220,000 kg
o to £100° Add s and viole sGua addition to \$1 a Tiered rates ap	tional hidgs ut ranteed when i and SC holding ply	ned to 5 vest
addition to \$1 a Tiered rates ap	ind S2 holding ply	n in 120,000 ke held for 5 year, is *Tanable bu
A NINR		
	THES	
nnual ann rs, paid m	uity (£10)	0,000 advance Age 70
Age 60		
£10,022	£11,192	£12,776
£10,277	£11.187	£12,381
ີເ9 956	£11.024	£12,419
29,954	£10,987	£12.334
£9,971	£10,967	£12,399
Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
£9,317	£10,066	£11,162
29,350	£10,027	£10,975
	£9,911	£11,088
	29,882	£10,989
£9,142	29,880	£10,968
4 00	Ann GE	Age 70
Age 60	Age 60	Age 65
Age 35		<u> </u>
£9,046	29,563	£10,276
£8, <i>8</i> 86	€9,474	£10,301
£8,773	£9,456	£10,224
28,778	29,438	£10,372
€8,672	29,362	£10,222
for smokers.		
izanne R	ose	
	Age 60 Age 55 £9,046 £8,886 £8,773 £8,778 £8,672	£9,129 £9,882 £9,142 £9,880 : Age 60 Age 65 Age 55 Age 60 £9,046 £9,563 £8,886 £9,474 £8,773 £9,456 £8,778 £9,438 £8,672 £9,362

			Standard
	Investment (£)	Company	Rate (%)
1 Year			_
	5,000	AIG Life	4.90
	10,000	AIG Life	5.00
	20,000	AIG Life	5.15
2 Years	50,000	AIG Life	5.25
	1,000	Premium Life	4.40
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	5.70
3 Years			
	1.000	Premium Life	4.70
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	5.95
4 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.00
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	6.35
5 Years	•		
	1,000	Premium Life	5,25
	3,000	ITT London & Edin	6.45
	50,000	Abbey Life	6.50

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

	9.375%	101.73	9.207	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	125,15	9.289	100.13	
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	141.01	9.219	100.20	
Bristol & West	13.375%	145.58	9,187	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13,000%	140.41	9.259	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	132.52	9.123	100,75	1,000
First National	11.750%	123.81	9.490	100.25	10,000
Halifax	9.750%	97.96	8.932	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	130.72	8.922	100.28	50,000
Halifax	13.625%	150.91	9.029	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	146.44	9, 134	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	121.30	9,843	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12,625%	138.37	9.124	100.45	1.000
Northern Rock	12.625%	141.35	8,931	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	141.01	9.130	100.48	1,000
	Gross	Buying		ssue	Minimum
FLOATING RATE	coupon	price	9 1	orice	purchase
Cheshire (28/09-27/03		107.6		0.00	1,000
		401 6		0.00	4 000
First Nat(20/09-20/03)		101.6	3 10	0,00	1,000
PIBS = Permanent interest Source; ABN AMRO Houre (beering shares	5	3 10		1,000
PIBS = Permanent interest Source; ABN AMRO Hoare SHARE IN FOCUS: BAA HOPES FOR FIFTH	beering shares	5		7. (A)	580p 540
PIBS = Permanent interests Source, ABN AMRO Houre (SHARE IN FOCUS: BAA	beering shares	5			580p 540 520 520
PIBS = Permanent interest Source; ABN AMRO Hoare SHARE IN FOCUS: BAA HOPES FOR FIFTH	beering shares	5			580p 540 520 500 480
PIBS = Permanent interest Source; ABN AMRO Hoare SHARE IN FOCUS: BAA HOPES FOR FIFTH	beering shares	5			580p 540 520 520 900 480 460
PIBS = Permanent interest Source; ABN AMRO Hoare SHARE IN FOCUS: BAA HOPES FOR FIFTH	beering shares Govern — 0171	601 0101			580p 540 520 900 480

Bristol & West 0800 608089	1.95	£15k+	90	Fixed at 1.95% to 31.7.97
Banks Bank of Ireland	0.99	£20-145k	95	9.25 disc 9 mth,
01734 510100 Barclays Bank	3,49	£15-500k	95	3% disc 6 month 3.50% discount
0800 000929				for 12 months
%	LA	RGER I	OA	1 S
Lender	Interest rate %	Loan' size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	0.05	to £250k	70	Super food rate for 12 months
Scarborough 0800 590547 Hinckley & Rugby	0.05 0.20	to £250k to £150k	70 70	for 12 months Fixed for 12
Scarborough 0800 590547				for 12 months
Scarborough 0800 590547 Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499 Mansfield 01246 202055 Banks	0.20	to £150k £75-125k	70	for 12 months Fixed for 12 months 6.35% dsc-6mth 2%-6mth, 1%-1y
Scarborough 0800 590547 Hinddey & Rugby 0800 774499 Mansfield 01246 202055	0.20	to £150k	70	for 12 months Fixed for 12 months 6.35% disc-6mth

LARGER LENDERS

Logn

90

1.39 £200-300k

0.99 £100-150k

Building Societies

Alliance & Leic 0181 742 0471

Northern Rock 0800 591500

LINTS INKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Bnk of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95 95	6.25% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths 3.74% disc for 12
TSB Bank 0500 758000	3.25	£15k+	90	months
Larger lenders, loans ar	nd first-time	buyers tables fro	n Blay's	Guides Ltd (01753 880482)
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FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Loan

3.74 £15-150k

£5-100k

interest rate %

4.24

Building Societies

Bristol&West 0800 608088

Newbury 01635 43676

Lambeth 0171 928 1331

Banks

Max %

95

Notes

months

6.04% disc 6 mnth

then 1% disc-6mth

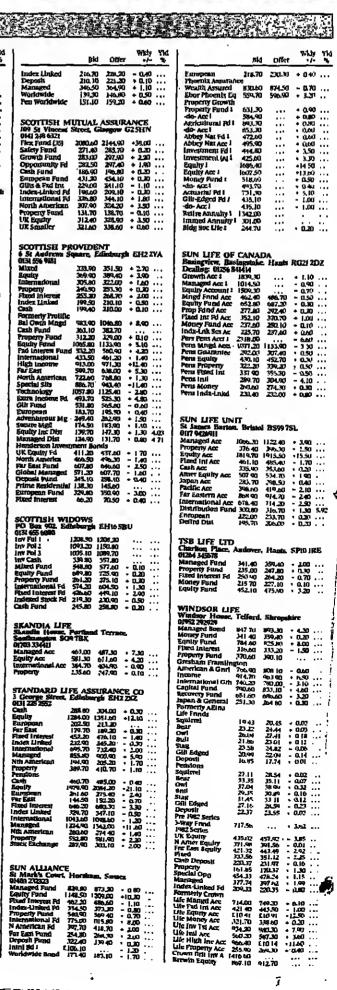
3.25% disc for 12

2.50% disc for 12

VN 7 5 5 7 7 5 5 7 8 8	and the state of t
BID Offer +/- %	Bld Offer +/- %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE	UK Opportunity 248.20 262.60 + 2.90 Euro Opportunity 277.10 293.20 + 1.00
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH129SE 0131 339 9(9) Balanced 534.30 Sec.50 + 1.60	North Amer Opp 241.00 255.00 + 4.50 Far Bast Opp 24-L30 226.70 - 2.90
UK Equisy 709.50 751.70 + 5.70 Property 417.10 441.40 + 0.20	Genh Prop Set 1 171.80 180.90
Fixed Interest 369.90 391.50 - 2.60	Fixed Int 228.30 241.60 - 0.50
International 432.70 457.90 - 1.10	Overseas 261.50 275.70 • 0.40
ABBEY LIFE Holdenburg Road, Bournemonth	Formerly LAS Managed Fund 425.50 447.90 + 6.30 UK Equity 790.80 790.40 + 6.00
BHG 8AL. OERIZ 292373	Property 200.30 301.40 + 0.20
Custodian \$4 195.70 207.10 0	Fbad laterest 531.70 349.20 - 1.20
Ethical S4 161.80 170.40 0.10 International S4 224.10 235.90 - 0.20	lagan 390.90 369.40 + 7.70 North America 214.50 225.80 + 4.00
Protected Gth \$4 123.90 130 + 0.20 Asian Pacific 357.40 216.40 + 1.10	International 404.00 425.30 = 0.70 European 354.40 373.10 + 1.30
European S4 210 277.40 • 0.40 Prop Fd Ser 4 392.50 413.20 Equity Ser 4 273.20 287.60 • 1.90	Far East 158.70 107.10 + 2.20
Man Ser 4 786.50 830.00 • 2.90	CANADA LIFE 26 High Street, Posters Bur, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 5122
Conv Ser 4 352 30 370.90 • 0.20 Monty Ser 4 352 370.60 • 0.30	01707 51 122 Equity Gravita 262.80
Pixed Int Ser 4 391.50 412.20 - 1.60 American Ser 4 667.40 702.60 - 3.40	Managed . 399.00 420.10 + 1.00 Property 258.80 272.50 - 0.10
High Inc Ser 4 8 in St 839.50 + 4.50 Indexed inv Ser 4 231.80 244 - 0.30	Gill & Fixe Int 270.60 284.90 - 1.10 Equity 470.40 415.20 + 2.70
Japan Ser 4 \$38.40 356.30 + 0.50 +	Cash 229.90 26100 + 0 10
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Poners Bag ENGIAL	CLife Invt Fd 404.80 426.20 - 1.30
01707 42311	Property Fnnd 552-10 561-20 + 0.60
European Fd Acc 480.70 505.90 - 1.90	GBr Edged Fd 689.50 725.00 - 1.40
Gld Money Acc 350.90 .177.70 + 0.20	Investment Pd 525.80 552-10 +15.60
Ini Fud Ini Acc 374.30 39380 - 270	International 636.20 671.60 + 3.40
N American Acc 438.90 462.00 + 3.30	CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Regues MK9 2NU, 01908 606/01
Prop Fd Acc 472.20 497.00 • 0.70 Mnltiple inv Acc 1246.90 1312.40 • 2.10	Property Fullid 169-40 178-40 1
ALLIEO DUNBAR ASSURANCE	Managed Fund 755-10 794-90 • 2.00 Equity Fund 449-80 473-20 • 4.60
Swindom SNI IEL 81793 514514	CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
Fad in Dep Acc 402.20 423.40 + 0.30 Equity Acc 1746.50 1838.50 +13.10	Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0,7H. 01/7 9290566
Property Acc 640.00 671.70 + 0.30 Fat East Acc 337.60 355.40 + 0.90	Assurance Funds Supplier Stined 345.40 363.60 4.40
-40- Acc 1325 40 1345_20 + 7.30	Ruby 206.40 217.30 - 3.70 Emerald (58.80 167.20 - 0.10
Oversen Acc 1204.00 1262.40 -11.20 Gth Edged Acc 547.60 576.50 - 1.60	Equity 407.10 421.00 + 6.00
Amer Equity Acc 1098_20 1156.00 +11.20 Amer Man Acc 460.70 485.00 + 4.20	Gilt & Fixed Int 228,70 241,70 - 0.50 Indexed Secs 184,60 194,40 - 0.20
Amer Prop Acc 118.40 125.20 = 0.40 Distribution Bonds 25.30 26.70 + 0.10	Cash 202.00 312.70 + 0.10
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE	Far East 346.20 364.50 • 3.00
Amerikani Road, High Wycombe, Bucks	Special Sits 454,10 476,00 +17,00
81494 463463 Reserve Ser a 177.60 (85.90 - 0.20	European 404.50 425.80 - 1.00
Balted Ser 6 860.40 905.60 5.50 Opportunity Ser 0 198.30 208.70 + 0.70	SE Asia 414.90 436.00 -11.90
Distribution Ser 0 104.40 109.80 • 010 6.92 UK Equibles Ser 6 12.51 113.17 • 12.50	-do-Spec IB4.90 194.70 - 0.20 Flexible Retirement Plants Funds
Higher Inc Ser 6 E12.50 E13.16 • 9.00 North Amer Ser 6 627.40 660.40 • 3.60 Far East Ser 6 593.60 624.80 • 3.70	Mixed 404.70 425.60 3.30 Equity 505.10 531.70 6.20
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Gleed Dep Sero 320.10 336.90 + 0.20	International Acc 357.60 376.60 + 2.20 Special Sits 679.70 715.90 + 740
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International Acc 469.10 403.80 + 4.80 do-Instal 291.20 506.60 + 3.03	[Units: Key 2 243.76 -do-Pacernaker 570.46 -do-Cash 216.48 227.87 0.14
Managed Acc 634.70 667.60 + 5.30	1 -un- Eduly 658.72 691.30 + 2.97
do-Injital 195.20 416.00 + 3.30	-do-Managed 471.56 496.40 • 4.64
-du-initial 194.70 205.00 America Acc 374.30 394.00 + 3.10	
Far East Gwith 255.60 259.10 • 2.80	-do-Equay Cap £17.38 £18.29 + 8.46
900 Accum: 532.20 560.30 • 3.20 Japan Acc 286.90 302.00 • 2.40	-do-Fixed Cap 434.38 457.26 - 2.39
Incompanie Acc 631 NO 664 60 + 5 50	-00-index Cap 212.28 223.47 - 0.76
Letsure Acc 373340 35140 44.10 Special Sits Acc 322.80 339.80 2.89 Univ Tech Acc 189.60 199.60 1.40	-do-index inv 331.82 349.30 - 0.95 -do-Mingd Cap 640.04 726.37 - 2.70 -do-Mingd Inv £10.76 £11.35 - 5.12
BLACK HORSE LIFE	COMMERCIAL UNION
Meanthetten House, Clutham, Kent ME441F 0to34 g:1000	M Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 6171 283 7500
The Managed Fd 965.28 965.28 • 1.92	Var Ann (5) I 104.00 • 0.00
Extra income 818.76 861.86 * 3.83	PRINCES INCEQUITY 336480 35480 + 0.70
Balanced Pund B25.24 886.66 • 7.23 Smilt Cot Recov £10.46 £11.01 • 0.98 N Amer & Genti 467.61 492.23 • 3.29	Prime Fed int 261.00 274.50 - 0.70
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	CONTROL OF STREET

	Bld	offer	wkly Yld	
Bristol & West (2	1 106.70		+ 0.10	HAMBRO ASSURED
Managed S1	286,50 285,20	300,30	+ 1.00	PR2 2PR, 01772 840000
Managed (2)	228.60 191.10		+ 0.30 + 0.70	-de-Pens 258.90 272.50 + 0.90
Pension Funds Unit With Pits (5			+ 0.20	UK Equity 215.60 226.60 • 1.20
Secure (2) 1 Marriaged (2) 1	105,00	:::	* 0.10 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	International 172.60 181.60 • 0.80
Equity Maga (2) Adventurous (2)	106.20	:::	* 0.10	Deposit 149.00 150.80 + 0.10 -do- Pens 180.50 190.00 + 0.20
Bristol S West (2)	1 10600	•••	÷ 0.20	For Hendersun see Scot Prov
EAGLE STAR 60 St Mary An Eagle/Mid Uts	c, Loudo	m EC3.	971 929 + 3.70 Q.0	HILL SAMUEL LIFE
FRIENDS PR C>stle Street S 01722 413366	COVIOE	NT Wils 5	P13SH	Security Fund 648.70 739.40 +10.20 British Fund 641.60 731.90 + 8.80
MATINGED WATER	372.90 514.20	392.60 541,30	• 270 • 520	International
Stewardship	451.50	475.30	+ 200 /	Income Fund 853.20 902.90 +11.20
Overseas Equity North American			• 2.10	Property Units #2490 \$68.33 + 3.90
Pacific Basin European Property	180.70 307.10	323,30	• 0.90	Financial Fund 772.30 817.30 + 7.20
Pined Interest Index Unlard	194.40 284.90 165.20	194.20 254.20 195.00	- 0.20	Managed Links 1185.70 1249.20 + 7.70 Righ Yield Fund 158.40 802.60 + 4.80
Cash	2/5.80	27.20	+ 0.10	Money Series A 310.90 329.00 + 0.20 Money Units 414.90 436.80 + 0.20
FP Life Assurance Fixed Interest	F03700	603.60	- 4.10	Equity Fund 760.60 \$04.90 + 5.90 Fixed interest 415.10 429.30 - 3.30
Managed Deposit	366,30	874.00 387.60	• 5.10	Indexed Secs 203.80 215.70 • 1.30 European Fund #97.30 949.60 • 3.00
Property American American	521.00 549.70	548.40 578.60	0.70 5.30	Natural Res 335.90 355.50
Australian Europeun	690.10 741.50	654_30 780_50	4 5.10 4 1.00	Special Sits 636.40 673.50 - 1.20
income Acr.	903.00 504.60	990.50 531.20	+ 230 5.05	Man Corrency 285.10 701.70 - 1.20
international Japan Smaller	364.90 445.90	384.10 469.30	- 0.50	US Brusiler Cos 459.70 485.90 - 1.00 Formerly Target Use Assurance Co Ltd
Singapore & Mai Smaller Cos	515.10	444.20 512.20	• 0.60 • 6.20	Deposit 266.50 260.70 + 0.30 Financial Ser I 63.10 67.40 + 0.70 Fixed Interest 366.30 365.70 - 1.20
Tokyo Fund UK Equity	70640	678.80 743.50	+ 5.20 + 6.00	Gald 91.10 96.00 - 0.60]
CCM Vangd Mg	898.80	940-10	+ 1.00	Managed 730.80 764.40 + 5.00 Managed Growth 234.60 247.10 + 1.10
GT GLOBAL F Albou Gale, Hit EC2Y SAS. 0171	Fir, 125	Leusion	LID Walk Lood	Maga Opp 248.70 261.70 - 1.00
GT Plan Far East	337.50	355,30	+ 3.20	TSB American 294-60 310.20 • 1.00
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GAN LIFE & 1 Gan House, Ha CM20 ZEW, OLZ	rensio	NS DEX		TSB Income 464.00 443.70 + 5.60 (
PUTUUURO ACC	801.IU	601.10	• 440 • 440	TSB Partite 427.70 490.30 + 4.90
do- inv A UK Equity	801.00 495 90	\$22.20	+ 4.30	TSB Prem tac 287.60 300.50 - 1.00
Glis Mus Managed	361.60	237,80 380,70	- 0.50 - 2.10	IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE
GENERAL AC	COEN	<u> </u>		Irish Life Centre. Victoria Street. St Albans. Herts ALI STF. 0172/48081
Rosegier St. V. Managed	249,30	262 20	+ 1.20	Global Managed 665.10 72[.30 + 2.10 1 Global Property 32[.10 334.00 1
Unitised Profit UK Equity Fixed ins	156.U3 358.40	164.30 377.10	3.20	Global Equity 749.60 789.10 3.50 3
ndes-Unked Cash Deposit	216.50 181.00 186.50	227,60 190,40 196,30	- 0.80 - 0.80 + 0.20	Global Caish 229,90 342,00 - 0,20
Property International	180,50	190,20	+ 0.10	LAURENTIAN LIFE Berswood, Gloscener GLA7R2
American Anom	214.10	207.10 225.30 238.90	• 3.10	1 01452 37137)
Enrobesu Jaban Suriji Cue Jaban	327.10 232.50 216.10	234,60 244,60 224,60	• 1.80 • 1.80 • 0.30	Managed 441.60 517.40 + 1.60
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Formerly Provide	III Multua	598.40	. 260	Index+Lkd
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osess Equity Init roperty Ord	279.00 280.60	293,70 295 40	+ 1.50	Par East 228,00 240,00 + 270 E
Toperty lok Used Int Ord	178,00	187,40	- 1.20	1
President in the Company of the Comp	222.10	233.80	+ 0.20	1 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sature BN51SE, 1
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IN CAIRO

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WHATEVER his fate on his return to the ring against Luis stadium tonight, Chris Eubank has lost none of his gift for understatement during his recent sabbatical. The poster advertising his first contest for a year features the Sphinx, the Pyramids and, rising between them, like a reincarnation of Rameses II, the proud head of Brighton's finest. The slogan reads: "The Lord of the Manor presents Style on the Nile." Eubank and the Sphinx. Appropriate enough, many would say. Two statues for the

The weigh-in yesterday showed that Eubank's phy-sique has not suffered from his time away, or from his natural graduation from super-middleweight to light-heavyweight. For all the Argentinian's jour neyman status, this is a serious bout for Eubank and his regime has been surprisingly spartan. He has run along the banks of the Nile each morning at first light, accompanied by a posse of armed guards and a gaggle of small boys and has sparred more than 100 rounds in preparation for the bout against a fighter well past his prime. The goldtopped cane is still part of the show, but the inclusion of his hairdresser in the entourage is the one sop to vanity. If the personalised postcard

entitled "Transcendentalism ultimately means non-conforming", given away free with every "Style on the Nile" T-shirt, is any indication, Eubank's mind seems to have gone up a weight, too. In between cruising round Brighton in his customised pick-up and losing on points to Mrs Merton in his last televised appearance, Eubank has clearly been doing some thinking, not all of it straight.

The riddle of the sands still remains. Why is the self-styled smart fighter, the man who not only beat 43 of his 47 opponents but the whole stinking system, infringing an adage as old as the Pharaohs? Smart fighters never come back, not even at the relatively tender age of 30.

Depending on who you listen to, the answer lies in the empty lining of Eubank's wallet or the bulging recesses of imagination. Eubank earned enough from boxing to keep his wife, Karen, and three (soon to be four) children in comfort, but not perhaps to keep himself in the designer-



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Eubank, returning to the ring that he claimed to hate, prepares for his comeback, complete with suitable ceremony, against Barrera in Cairo

"I want to bring boxing to the Middle East." And where better to start than the biggest city in Africa?

"I've made a lot of money never have been at home," he out of boxing." he said. "If I said. Ah, rejection. Eubank lose money, I am not too feels neither his achievements, worried. The object is much which range from a record 19 successive defences of his bigger than that I want to World Boxing Organisation title to the construction of a 69bring boxing to the Middle East." And where better to start than by promoting the flat project for the homeless, nor his lofty ambitions have been suitably acknowledged in England, where, he says, the press like their boxers to be seen and, barring a few monobox. Eubank intends to be one syllables, not heard. Cairo of the teachers. "It would be might still be learning about

In a city where everything has a price, the extent of the people's admiration of their strange new guest will be gauged by the size of the crowd. The capacity of the indoor stadium is about 20,000 and, according to the organisers, 18,000 tickets have already been sold — "distributed" is Eubank's phrase. The cheapest advertised seats cost £15, 15 times more than entry to the main football stadium up the

three finals of the Egyptian amateur national championships, which might be more enticing to the locals than Eubank himself. One of the sponsors of the bout, Al-Ahram, the state-run newspaper, has been the main organ of publicity, along with national television, but the lack of support from international broadcasters reflects road. The most expensive £750. Eubank's diminishing draw-Eubank has promised a ing power and makes this grand entrance, on a camel or a venture as risky as a ride in a in stone.

panther, rumour has it but

wisely, the undercard includes

Cairo taxi. The story that a Saudi princess started Eubank's interest in the Middle East adds to the mystery. Ronnie Davies, Eubank's

faithful trainer, believes that his man has discovered a plainer truth. "He is still a fighter and he wants that title back," he said. Eubank needs boxing more than boxing needs Eubank, in fact. "He missed it. You can't just be a champion and then give it all up, not when you've got so much more to offer. He needed a break, now he looks power. "Too much, very probably, for his ageing opponent. By fate tonight Barrera might very well be the one sculpted

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Fire

Eubank challenges the sands of time Holmes poses tall order for Woodhall

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

MICKEY DUFF has the knack of pulling off wins abroad against formidable champions, the most notable being Lloyd Honeyghan's sixth-round victory over Donald Curry in Altantic City in 1985. Before that John Stracey had shown that bearing chempions in their back yards was possible when he stopped José Napoles, also in the sixth round of their contest, in Mexico City in 1975.

Tonight another of Duff's boxers, Richie Woodhall, the Telford middleweight, takes on another world champion, Keith Holmes, at Upper Marlboro, Maryland, a short bus ride from Washington DC. Holmes's home town. Since Woodhall is as highly-rated as Honeyghan and Stracey were in their time and Holmes does not have the kind of reputation that Napoles and Curry had, it should follow that Duff should be in for a good night — but since the saying "stars make flights" overrules all other logic in boxing. Duff remains only cautiously hopeful.

Although Woodhall's camp

does not admit it, the main concern must be Holmes's southpaw stance. Woodhall is not happy against boxers who lead with their right. That was obvious when he defended his European championship nine months ago against Derek Wormald, who was not much more than an ageing journey-man. Wormald caused Woodhall problems for five rounds.

Woodhall's father and trainer, Len, brushes that performance aside, claiming that it should be seen as no more than an outing against a southpaw to gain experience for the bout with Quincey Taylor, who was the World Boxing Council (WBC) champion at the time and a southpaw. Len Woodhall said: "He decided that, if he had to learn about southpaws, he might as well do it here against Wormald. We knew he did nor have the power to hurt Richie, so we let him come to us for five rounds. Then Richie took over

According to Len Woodhall, Wormald did cause some probhe was shorter than his opponent and was a forward-mov-

ing fighter. Since Holmes is tall and a boxer, Len Woodhall believes his son will be able to handle him better. However. on Thursday.

after the final press conference with Holmes, Woodhall, who is 6ft 2in tall, was alarmed to find that the WBC champion was not only taller than him by at least half an inch, but had a five-inch longer reach. "He's a bit taller than I

thought he was. I only discovered it when we had that eyeball-to-eyeball for the photographers," Woodhall said. "It's going to be difficult getting to him. He's got a reach of 77 inches, mine's 72. I don't think him being a southpaw will worry me, just his height."

:4, ed

ηg æ-

ti was lucky for Woodhall that he found out about Holmes's height and reach advantages before the bout and not during it. He has been able to make the necessary adjustments to his strategy. realising that he might not be able to get to Holmes first if he stays "outside", attempting to box him from a distance.

Twe definitely got to take the fight to him," Woodhall said. "I won't be hanging back [as he did against Wormald]. To beat him to the punch, I've got to get inside or he'll pick me off. He's a good fighter, but

I think I can handle him."
Curiously, Woodhall has been encouraged to believe that he can beat Holmes as a result of an incident that happened here on Thursday. when he believes he was the victim of a prank designed to upset him. Instead of the official car taking him to a press conference 15 minutes from his hotel, Woodhall, his father and cornerman were given a ride, literally, that took them all round Washington and ended up at the White House, where the driver declared that he was totally lost.

The three were missing for two hours and Duff had begun to despair, believing that they had been held up by be worried if they have to resort to a stupid stunt like lems, but that was only because that," Woodhall said. Stunt or not, it certainly had a positive effect on the challenger.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

POOTBALL Nick-off 3 0 unless stated denotes all-ticket match Pools coupon numbers in brackets FA Carling Premiership

Nationwide League First division

(14) Ipswich v Portsmouth . (15) Manchester City v Non

Crystal Palace Wolverhampen Barnsley Stoke Reading ... Portsmouth

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier divinion: Chefenhem v Sudbury Tn, Gresley v Crawley, Halesowen v Salisbury, Hastings v Gloucester, Menthyr v Burton: Worcester Gaucester, Merthyr y Burton: Warcester Cay y Chelmstord Middand division: Rothwell y fileston: Shepshed D y Dudley Town, Solihuli Boro y Reddirch Southern division: Dentiord v Clevedon

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham Wood v Kingstonian; Carshalton v Degenham and Redbindge: Cherisey v Oxford Cry Harrow v Stanes; Purtiset v Enfeld: SI Albans v Yeovit: Surton United v Dulwich Second division: Barriong v Windsor and Eton, Bechard T v Wembley, Challont St Peter v Wistentoe: Cheshum v Hungorlord. Ozhung v Coller Row and Romflord. Edgeare v Ware: Egham v Witham: Hemel Hempstead v Leatherhead; Horsham v Bracknett, Memopolitan Police v Bansteed; Troury v Leighton Third division: Avdley v Spet Thurroor: Clapton v Ting: Epsom and Em v Blantisee: Homchurch v Flacknett. Haatt, kingabury v Northwood, Lowes v Wealdstone. Southalf v Camberlay, Wingale and Frienley v Heritord. ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow v Emlay: Brahop aucidand v Marine. Boston v Colwyn Bay: Geinaborough v Blyth Spanans, Hyde v Barroer Bridge, Runcom v Guseley: Spennymoor v Chorley First division: Fladon v Raddiffe, Lincoln United v

Second division (29) Brientlord v Welsall (20) * Bristol Rovers v Blackpool (21) Burnley v Notis County (22) Bury v Wetlord (23) Chesterfield v Crewe (24) Cillinghem v Milwell (25) Luton v Peterborough (25) Luton v Peterborough (26) Luton v Peterborough (27) Chesterfield (27) Chesterfield (27) Luton v Peterborough (27) Luton v Peterborough (28) Luton v Peterborough (29) Luton v Peterborough (20) (26) Plymouth v Bristol City (27) Preston v Shrewsbury

label manner to which he had

become accustomed. Stories of

his extravagance, of shopping

sprees and flights on Concorde

have fuelled speculation about

first professional show in the

Eubank's grand plan is to

set up a foundation to teach

Cairo's street children how to

very much an honour. Here I

have been honoured in a way I

biggest city in Africa?

the need to top up funds.

Third division (31) Barnet v Hartiepool (32) Cambridge Utd v Rochdele (33) Carible v Cardifi (34) Cartiste v Carotti
(34) Chaster v Exeter
(35) Parfington v Mansfield
(36) Doncaster v Brighton
(37) Hereford v Leyfon Orient
(38) Hull v Fulham
(39) Uncoln v Scarborough
(—) Northampton v Colchester

(—) Northampton v Colches
(—) Swansea v Scurthorpe (—) Swansea v Scurthorpe (—) Wigarn v Torquay P W O L Fulham 13 10 0 3 Wigan 13 8 2 3 Carifisia 13 7 4 2 Terquay 13 6 4 3 Scarborough 13 5 8 2 Scurthorpe 13 5 8 2 Scurthorpe 13 6 1 5 Swansea v Scurthorpe

Vauxhall Conference (--) Bath v Stalybridge (---) Bromsgrove v Dover (---) Famborough v Stevenage (---) Halitar v Woking Hayes v Altrincham
 Hedneslord v Southport
 Macclesfield v Welling
 Morecambe v Kettering

—) Slough v Tellord LEAGUE OF WALES; Aberystwyth v Barry, Caernarton v Welshood (2:30); Caersws v Carmerthen Town; Cernées Bay v Briton Ferry, Cwrnbaen v Bangor City, Ebbw Vele v Cohwy (2:30); First Town v Newtown; Inter-Cable-Tel v Conneh's Cusy: Llansantfitraid v Ton Pentre; Porthmadog v Rhyl. SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier di-

SAMPONOPP INICIPI LEAGUE: Premier di-vision: Coleraine v Gleriforan; Crusaders V Ardes: Luffield v Gleriavon; Portadown v Ontonnile First division: Bengor v Ballyclare, Carrick v Lame; Disnilery v Orreigh; Newry v Ballymena. FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Deny v Cork; Home Ferm

Bell's Scottish League Premier division (40) Dunlermine v Dundee Utd . First division

Eubank, but at least it will

(46) Dundee v Partick (47) Falkirk v St Johnstone (48) St Mirren v East File Second division

Third division Ueta under-18 championship

Holland v Scotland (at Rode Realte Stadium, 230) varia v Wales (at FC Hattern, 230)

Liftwania v Weles

(at FC Hattern, 2.30)

FA UMBRO TROPHY: First qualitying round: Athersone v Whiteley Bay, Atherton LR v Moor Green, Stationd v Curzon Astroom: Droyleden v Leigh RNII, Nuneaton, v Congleton; Affecton v Baston; Wannington v Lancaster, Bedworth v Gretrat, Hindeley Founi v Worksop; Harrogate Town v Knoweley; Cramtram v Leek, Racing Chu-Warwick v Finchley; Tamworth v Great Harwood; Paget R v Eastwood Town; Buston v VS Rugby, Mastock Town v Winston; Paget R v Eastwood Town; Buston v VS Rugby, Mastocks Town; Orderled Town; Afranon v Workington; Natherfed V Farsley Cette; Corencester Town v Cambridge Day, Woldingtern v Erith and Belvedere; Ashittod v Histor-Townordge; Margate v Alderstra. Town. Buckingham Town v Forest Green; Hendon v Trame Ild; Chesham v Watton end Hersham; Bishop's Stortbook v Creydon; Hampton v Trowbridge, Raunds I v Barnot-Rovers, Canvey Island v Heybridge Sauts, Gravesend and Northeer v St. Leonarts Stammork; Yale v King's Lynn; Stampbouve v Fleet I; Weston-super-Mare v Westhung, Newport (Nowl) v Leykon Permant, Asmodon Town v Evenham; Manderhead v Corby; Bornier v Molesey; Marlow v Wicher; Conclusier v Molesey; Marlow v Wicher; Dorchester v Waserlooville

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE Cup: First round: Concard v literd. East Ham v Southend Marcor, Ford v Great Wakering Rovers; Elon Marcor v Sathron Walders, Burtharn Rambers v Basidon: Bowers v Stratted; Berthusod v Savistodievorth LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier dichlerer Savishone de Laboue. Scaracci Sternaton V savbrogemon London SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bartungsde v Totrentem Omade, Britischem es v Woodront: Brook House v Harriger; Harefield v Croydon; Hillingdon Boro v Harriger; Harefield v Croydon; Hillingdon Boro v Harriger; Harefield v Cory Group D: St Margaretsbury v Istington St Mary's COMBRIDED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Section! v Godelming and Goodland. Cheptead v Ash; Connthan-Casusis v Cove; Crarkisch v Ashtonic Familiam v Walton Cesuals, Hunley Whitney v Paynes Park Vise, Netherne v Sandrurs; Vieng Spoots v Mersham Westfield v Cobart.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'BinertMeterure Burchers premier division Cop. Brache Sparta v Aresy Tomi, Mitch Keynes v Hoddeston, Harpanden v Sectione United

Bedord United
SCREWFOX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier
division: Snepor: v Backwet, Caine v
Yortnycox: Barssaple v Chypperham
Chard v Brislington, Odd Down v
Brislington: Westbury v Emore Las Philips
Cupc Prais round: Chya v Wellington:
Paulion: R v Yeowi Laskhali Am v
Keensham

Cupt First round: Clys v Wellington: Pacifics R v Yeard Lashfell Am v Keynsham
JENSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE Premier division: Bury Town v Scham, March v Sudbury, Sudbury Res v Harwort and Pantaston; Whorlam v Febscows P and T Clips First round: Des v Warbors, Halsmad v Fakenham, Havehill v Neumanker, Haston v Tiobee; Middon v Caston; Middenhalf v Gorleston; Stownsker, Warbors, Withoun v Boptimpses, Wasbech v Challers: Woodlandge v Stanlard v Westborn Ending Respons v Stanlard V Westborn Ending Respons v Challers Stownson: Pommon v Aerosinchurs, East Corres v Westborne Internation; Gespons v Challers stownson: Personal v Lymington; Ryde Spons v Challers stown Respons Rev Eastborne Town Harden Republic Persons of the Vestborne Town Harden Republic Vestborne Spons v Challers Stown South Vestborne Schamm V LAGUE: First division: Sucpass Rev Vestborne Town Harden Republic Republic Republic Respons Revent S v Lye Town Cadley Town Staffer Republic Repu

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Avsenal v Gillingham; Charton v Mahvad; Chelsos v Fulbash; Southerst v Ipowich. Second division: Brighton v Brentont; Totarham v Barnet; Wycombe v Swindon. Cup: Second round; Boume-mouth v Batted Rovers (11 0); Colchester v Luton (11 0); Norwich v Leyton Cheni (11 0); Datord v Toterham (10.30); Cuserse Park Rangors. v Crystal Palace 110 45; Southernpton v Reading (11.0); Watford v Portsmouth (11 0); Wimbledon v West Ham (10.30). OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Ignatians v Old Tenisonsians. ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Bretheoods v Old Etanians; Old Wideans v Old Chiquestians. FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Aston Vita v Hudderstield. Bredford v Garswood SI Helens; Nots County v Stouppor, Sheffled Wedneadey v Blyth Spatians; Wolverhampion v Britishes: League: Leyton Crien v Windowskier. Der hammsead v Langtond. Brighton and Hous v Times Bridges: Leyton Crien v Windowskier. Town and County v Ignanch: Windowskier. Der Langtond. Brighton and Hous v Times Bridges: Leyton Crien v Windowskier. Town and County v Ignamor: Windowskier. Town and County v Ignamor: Windowskier. Der Langtond. Brighton and Hous v Times Bridges: Leyton Crients Windowskier. Hud v Welesfield. On themses stated): English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Second round replay: Pakiby Knowsky v Macclesield. Northern Merit: Leeds v Preston. Woodward Cup Chester v Stookport: Mucclesield. V Selfinel v Hud v Welesfield of Dirington v Hackney, Newcastle v Leeds, Sheffled v Currbria v South Yorkshier. Northumberland v Clawaland. WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE FIRST WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First citylsion: Citarham y Carterbury, Cookarhill v Feversham; Folkestune Invicta v Lordswood; Herne Bay v Slade Green, Hythe v Contiflian; Sneppey v Barssgate, Tharmamead v Funness; Tunbrudge Wels v Greenwach; Woodwach v Deal, HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Barbury v Warslage; Buester v Swindon Supermanine: Lambourn Sports v Bratiley Unitsport Invited Countries LEAGUE: Premier division: Barbury Warslage; Buester v Swindon Supermanine: Lambourn Sports v Bratiley Unitsport United Countries LEAGUE: Premier division: Rouge v N GUE: Primiter division: Bourse v N Spencer; Ford Sports v S and L Corby, Holbeach v St Neots; M Bladstone v Cogenhoe, Newport Pagnell v Starrford; Pritton v Boston', Startford v Decl-prough; Wellingborough v Long Bucktyr, Wootton v Spaiding

Petinon v Bestort Storthold v Desborought, Weilingbacuph v Long Buckty, Wootton v Spaking INTERLINK EUPRESS MIDILAND ALLI-ANCE Bakerhal v Petsall V; Bridgnoth v Barwelt Chaserown v Sandwell, Hindigey Ahlero v Halvesowen H. Oldoury U v Bowelt Town, Hashald o v Boothere Si Mr. Stapanhil v Rocester, Stational T v Angersiey V; W Med Police v Pershore T, Woerhalt v Shrimal T ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDILAND COMERNATION: Premise division: Billston Community Cotege v Nargs Health, Highgate v Boleral S, Massey Ferquson v Kenhworth, Mer KA v Richmond Swifts, Wellsbourne v Shriey, West Modland Fre Service v Knowle, Wordestero v Coteshill, NORTHERN COUNTESS EAST LEAGURE: Premise division: Selper Town v Ashibit, Denaby v Gasshoughton Wellaw, Hubandil v Osset Town, Helfield Man v Hallam, Osset Abon v Melby MW; Portetiact Cots v Armithore Welfare; Seby v Brigg Town, Syethed v Annothing Welfare; Seby v Brigg Town, Stether Northern V Stockern Correll v Whicham: Durston LEAGUE: First division: Chester to-Street v Stockern Correll v Whicham: Durston Avon Insulance Comesnation v South Nation v Melby Million v Station Avon Insulance Comesnation v Ballinghen; Multinot Curborought, Seaby v Brid South Avon Insulance Comesnation v Station Avon Insulance Comesnation v Station Avon Insulance Comesnation. High Land League: Bron v Peterseud, Cachwaldid v Morneth, Whigh v Sividon.
Avon Insulance Comesnation, Cachwaldid v Forms Mechanics, Core v Budge Christie; Keth v Wich Academy, Rothes v Fraserburgh: Fort William v Lassemouth. Hurthy v Nation Courts.

Hundy v Nam County
SOUTHERN CUMPIAN LEAGUE Senior
one: Abenian to Perifield. O Finchleans v
Hale End Athlete: Southpare County v
Wandsworth Borough. Witan v Notis-

Wantstein School Volume Berger Berger School Volume Berger Volume Berger

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL Kick-oft 3 0 unless stated " denotes all-ticket march FA Carling Premiership Nationwide League First division Tranmere v Queens Park Rangers (1.0)

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bray v Shebourne (3.15). FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: Notional discont Eventor v Assenal (at New Horse Co., 12:30); Messon To v Millwall (at New Marcy Gound, 20); Southernoise v Croy-on (at Tomor AFC, 20); Trammer Rovers v Doncaster (at Heswell FC, 20) Wernbley v Assenated but Membles Co. 20. Doncaster (at Heswell FC, 2.0) 1 Liverpool fat Wembley FC, 2.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Snetteld v Derby MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier dististor: Carmock v Hounslow (at Monts Graund, 2 30); East Grasteed v Havera lat Sant Hit, 20; Gutdand v Teddington (at Kine's Manor School, 12.0), Old

King's Manor School, 1201, Old Leughtenans v Surbion (at Chignell 1.30); Reading v Bertord Tigers (at Somming Lene, 20); Southingate v Center-bury (at Spoemheld School, 20) First division: Beaston v Outord Hawks (at Exhibition Newscare), 20); Blasharts v division: Beeston v Ordord Hawks (et Highfields Nottingnam, 20); Buestos v Ordord Arabis v Ordord Arabis v Ordord Arabis v Ordord Arabis v Streffield (et King Sowerd's Gris School, 2:30); Brooklands v St Abasis (at Georges Road, Sale 2:0); City of Ponsmouth v Stouppor (at Alexandra, Park, Portsmouth, 1:30); Cossylv v Wenington (at Bernesthorpe, 2:30); Ecopastor v Harleston Magness (at Bernesthorpe, 1:30); Ecopastor v Harleston Magness (at Bernesthorpe, 1:30); Ecopastor v Harleston Magness (at Bernesthorpe, 2:30); Leves (at Thombury Avenue, 2:30).

WYMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: England framing squad v Slough (at Basham, 2:30) WOMEN'S WELSH LEAGUE Cardil Ain v Navioum: Colony Bay v Swensee, Pomyridd v Penarth, Cardil Institute v Housendause

BUGBY UNION Heineken Cup Pool A Dark v Edinburgh (30)

Pool C Caledonia v Brive (at McDiarmid Park, 3.0). OTHER SPORT

GOLF: Toyota World Match Play Championship (at Wentworth). Semons Player Championship (at Buckinghamshire GC) CE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr v Carolil 16 01: Manchester v Notingham (6 0); Bracinet v Newcastle (6.0) SNOOKER: Grand Prix for Bournemouth) SNDOKEH: Grand Pre Im Bournemoun's SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Covertry v Peterborough 18:30) Conference League: Linidigoow V Essibourne (2:30). Linidigoow V Essibourne (2:30). Linidigoow League: Individual: Berme Nieft Memonal Trophy (at Mikerhan, 3:30); Grand National Jos Burdon, 3:30); Grand National Jos Burdon, 3:30); TENNIS: Texaco women's challenger four-nament (in Cardiff) VPC I FYRALL I: Netional League: Women's

nament (n. Cardiff)
VOLLEYBALL: Neifored League: Womerc
First delusion: Bitmingham v. Liverpool
(12.45); Opprigion v. Laughborduph (2.30);
London v. Seiford (1.30); Galdred v.
Sheffield (3.30); Champion Copt Britanna
Mussc City v. YC Mamer (Ltd.) (at Crystal
Palace, 5.30).

HOCKEY

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Anchorlans v Ramgarhia; Beckenham v Hampused/Westmuniser, Fasehum v Bournerrouth: Gore Count v Ashford, Medonhead v Working: Old Lingstonians v Turbindige Wels; Old Whightams v High Wycombor; Retmond v Winchester; Spenser v Wirnbiedon; Wokingham v Chichester Hempehine/Surrey: Barnes v Old Mid-Whighfans, Camberley v Southampton; Potrsmouth v Andover; Oxfed v London Umstay; Goen v Old Granleghams; Outwich v Bismotord, Furley v Walton and Weyfordge; Chearn v Petersfield; Old Walcoumbans v Basingstoke; Epsem v Oushoft. Kenti/Suesec: Ashford v Mid-Sussex; Bekedera v Old Holcombelans. Bedeyhaasti v Lloyds Bank; Beaky Invota v Sevenciosis: Bledchash v Eastbourne: Bognor v Worthing; Brighton v Tulse Hil; Herne Bay v Old Willemsonians; Meddelon v Horsham MiddbyBerles/Bucks and Oxon: Eastoob v Bradhrelf: Gerrado: Cross v Amersham; Harrow v Heedington; Hayes v Newbury; Librs v Famham Common: Marlow v Chy of Oxford. Mil Hill v Sunbury; Millon Keynes v Richings Park, Pilic Criswick v Outh; West Hampsteed v Steines

Chiswick v OMT, West Hampstead v Steines PTZ MIDLANO LEAGUE: Premier division: Hampsteal v Nhalsa, Harborne v Blossomfield; North Notis v Loughborough Students; Northingham v Bizzowich; Oxforn and West Warwindshine v Covertry and North Warwickshine v Covertry and North Warwickshine v Covertry and North Warwickshine of Covertry and North Warwickshine v Covertry and North Warwickshine v Covertry and North Warwickshine v Phydiding v Timperery; Harrogase v Shelfield Bankers; Nesion v Springfields; Ramgarhia v Chester; Southport v Northon, Swelwell v Formby, ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Bishop's Southord v Sudbury; Cambridge City v Cambridge University;

HOCKEY

ADNAMS EAST LEAKUE: Framer orvision A. Bistory's Stortlord v Sudbury,
Cembridge City v Cembridge Linversity;
Colchester v Redbridge and Rord, Ipswich v
Chehristond. Peterborough Town v
Dereham Pramier division B. Bacillord
Town v Lution Town, Bury SI Edmunds v
Westalith, Claction v Huntingdon, Nonwich
City v Romford; Old Southerwisen v Ipswich
ard East Suttolik. WOMEN'S CLIB MATCHES: Atlanta v
Epsom, Bedford v Peterborough; Bevederie v Sevencaks; Brogbourne v Bishop's
Stortbord: Eestoole v Winchmure Hill.
Hampstead v Ealing; Hampion v Redlend;
Heveni v Bournernouth; Hendon v Lution,
Horaham v Bestleyheath; Lascestar v Sherwood, Listofworth v Welsyn GC; Liverpool v
Wigart, Maderhead v Wycombe Rye; Old
Loughtonwars v Harleston M; Portishaed v
Yare; St Wes v Cambridge City, Serbson v
Hounslow.

RUGBY LEAGUE NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Pre-mier division: Heworth v Egremont (2:30); Saddleworth v Oldham St Annes (2:30). Kick-off 3.0 unless stated Heineken Cup Pool A

Pontypridd v Bath (2.30)......... Pool B Pool C

Pool O

Pool B

Pool C Pool O

Courage Clubs Championship Second division Redford v Rotherham

Third division Exeter v Redruth Harrogate v Lydney Leeds v London Weish Liverpool St Helens v Walsell

Otley v Havant
Reading v Fylde
Rosslyn Park v Clifton
Wharledele v Morfey Fourth division north Kendal v Birningham/Solihuli Menchester v Preston Grasshoppers Nuneaton v Winnington Park Sheffield v Hereford Stoke-on-Trent v Sandal Stourbridge v Aspatria Worcester v Lichfield

Fourth division south SOUTH WEST: First division: Barnstaple v Laurceston; Bridgwater v Salisbury; Camborne v Matson, Madenhead v Gloucester Old Boys; Si Ives v Britham;

Stroud v Torquey LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Esher v Wimbledon; Guidlord and Godalming v Harlow, Norwich v Sudbury; Old Coltolane v Basingstoke; Rusiip v Sutton and Epsom; Thurrock v Old Mid-Whitellitans.
MEDIANDS: First division: Barkets Butis v
Derby, Betgrave v Camp Hill, Broad Street v
Burton: Stockwood Parl v Scunthorpe:

Syston v Mansfield; Westleigh v Leightor Buzzard, Whitchurch v Learnington; Wolver Buzzara, Wnichulari VLearningion; Wolwa-hampton V Hinckley NORTH: First division: Bnolingion v Braditord and Bingley, Broughton Park v Wittnes, Maccleshied v West Park Bramhope, New Brighton v Sedgley Park; Stockdon v Hufl Iomans; Wigton v Tynedale, Weish League Second division

Aberavon v Abercynon Abertišery v Carotiti Institute (2:30).
Maasteg v Llandouery (2:30).
Pontypool v Cross Keys (2:30).
South Wales Police v Bonymaen (2:30) Ystradgynlais v Blackwood (2:30). THIPID DIVISION: Uanheran v Tondu; Merthyr v Tredegar Moumain Ash v Buith Wells; Narberth v kenlig Hill: Pyle v Rumney, Tenby United v Penarth

Runney, Teriby United v Penarth
CLUB MATCHES; Ayr v Glasgow Academycals; Biggar v Curne, Borougirmur v Wect
of Scotland; Gala v Jed-Forest, Gordonars
v Varkcaldy, Gangemouth v Meloce, Kelso
v Pesobles; Numanout v Hillinead/Jordanhil,
Loughborough Sudents v Oxford University
12:30); Presson Lodge v Haddington,
Saracens v Cambridge University, Sevart s
Moville FP v Edinburgh Academicals,
Stiring Courty v Glasgow Southern;
Walsonians v Dundee HSFP, West Hartlepool v Hawick

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budwelser League: Burningham v Crystal Palace (at Aston Villa LC. 7 30). Hernet and Wattord v Leopards (7 30).

(7:30)

BOWLS: Liberty Trophy: Group matches: Durham v Lancaishie: Cumbria v Nontrumportand: Limotrishie v Derbyshiro, Notinghamshire v Torishire Leocastechie v Worcestershire, Northamptonshire v Worwickshire: Bedfordshire v Nortolk, Cambridgechie v Suffolk, Herelondshire v Gloucestershire. Watshire v Oxfordshire, Devon v Cornwall; Somerset v Dorsei, Buckinghamshire v Bertshiro, Hampohire v Sussex, Middlesex v Essex, Surrey v Kerd

GOUF: Toyota World Match Play Chemptonship (at Wentworth); Seniors Playor Chempionship (at Buckinghamshire GC) ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Notingham v Ayr (7.0); Sheffield v Bracknell (7.0); Basingstoke v Manchester (6.30)

LacRosse: Shephards Friendly Society League: Premier division: Heaton Mersey v Melor; Poynton v Cheadle Hulme: Oid Waconamy v Moorthorpe; Timperley v Stockport SNOOKER: Grand Prox (in Bournernouth) SPEEDWAY: Individual: Dunlop Premier League rider's championship: Final lat Bradford, 6.0). Conference League: Ber-

WollEYBAL: National League: Mon: First division: Levestern v Eeling (2 30); Liverpool v Whitefield (5 30); Loeds v Wannet, (1 0); Crolling v Tecting (3 0); Wasser v Stoke (6 30)

THE WEST TIMES SPORTS SERVICE

RACING Commentary

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49p per min at all rin

need



RACING: SAEED BIN SUROOR TO PREVAIL IN TITLE DUEL

Halling has fitting stage to Pist confirm champion status RY RICHARD EVANS. RACING COURSESDANDENT

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

rvestor at THE struggle between Henry ntitled . Cecil and Saeed bin Suroor for tockbr but the trainers championship roking and reaches a fitting climax at active? See Newmarket this afternoon ount when Bosra Sham and Iroker! See Halling clash in the best ashbar

pen a seleast a decade.

cp. F Sh After a season dominated by the head-to-head bantle be-

tween the rival camps, the Godolphin trainer is £55,000 ahead of Cecil at the top of the trainers' table. If Halling can retain his unbeaten run on turf, stretching back more than two years, a first title for Sheikh Mohammed's man is assured.

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from t

However, victory for Bosra Sham, the brilliant 1,000 Guineas winner, would make Cecil a hot favourite to win his eleventh trainers' championship -- and probably the one he would value most.

"It's crunch time," Simon Crisford, the Godolphin racing manager, said yesterday. "We are thinking about the trainers' championship and

very much hope to achieve While Halling and Bosra
Sham deservedly head the
betting. Even Top and
Timanda would be worthy

favountes in any other year. Even Top, pipped by Mark Of Esteem in the 2,000 Guineas, is arguably running over his

- RICHARD EVARS Nap: ROYALE FIGURINE (4.45 Newmarket)

Next best: Canon Can

(3.00 Newmarket) best trip and has been laid out for this race after bouncing

back to form at York six weeks

First Island, seen at his best when winning the Sussex Stakes, may have been slightly below par when finishing three lengths adrift of Halling in the International Stakes. Fillies have an outstanding ly four-year-olds. and Timarida fits the bill. The John Oxxtrained runner possesses a sparkling turn of foot and is still improving judged on her most recent success in the Irish Champion Stakes. However, her participation had been in doubt earlier this week because of coughing.

Bosra Sham's preparation has also suffered a hitch with a recurrence of bruising to a foot, which nearly stopped her running in the I,000 Guineas. The Wasic Said-owned filly put up a fine performance behind Mark Of Esteem in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot three weeks ago, after a four-month absence. She should be suited by today's extra quarter mile, and the heavy rain, which fell on the Rowley Mile yesterday, will be

welcomed. However, I cannot desert Halling, the best ten-furlong horse in the world on turf, who may be having his final race this afternoon before comrecord in this race, particularmencing a stud career.

mood when assessing Halling's chances. "He's in particularly good form and gives the impression he's as good as when he won at York. It will be fascinating to see how the race unfolds, but ours is such a versatile horse. He's won on fast and soft ground: he's done coming from behind or making the running, and he has quickened off a fast and a

slow pace."

With the irrepressible Frankie Dettori in the saddle, Halling can prove himself one of the outstanding Champion Stakes winners. Canon Can, who will have

to run off a stone higher handicap mark in future, looks an ideal candidate for the Tote Cesarewitch (3.00). Henry Cecil's lightly weighted three-year-old has progressed significantly since being stepped up in trip and today's stamina-sapping test should prove ideal. Jiyush, Orchestra Stall and Trainglot look the main dangers.



Halling, nearside, holds strong claims in the Dubai Champion Stakes at Newmarket this afternoon

Branston Abby for third course win



CHANNEL 4

3.00: See left. 3.35. Bolshoi would have gone close to winning at Ascot last week with a trouble-free run. He looks sure to run well, but is unlikely to offer much value. Tedburrow has been poorly drawn on his two starts since finishing fourth in the Portland Handicap. He

now races off the same mark as when winning at the July course here and can bounce back to form. Sea-Deer shaped well at Haydock and looks a danger.

4.15: See left.

4.45: With Cyrano's Lad and Atraf likely to force the pace, this should be set up for Branston Abby to land her third win over course and

last year's winner. Royal Figurine. She, too is best held up off a strong pace, and was not disgraced in a hot Ascol handicap last time over an inadequate five furlongs. Easy Option finished fourth in the Prix de l'Abbaye at Longchamp, but is not certain to like this trip.

ROBERT WRIGHT

NEWMARKET

1.45 Artful Dane 2.20 Bintang Timor

3.00 JIYUSH (nap)

3.35 Sea-Deer 4,15 Bosra Sham 5.20 Gymcrak Premiere

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.00 CANON CAN. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 Jiyush, 4,15 HALLING (nap).

GOING: GOOD DRAW, NO ADVANTAGE

1.45 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES FINAL HANDICAP (£29,700: 1m) (27 runners)

Long handicap: Cool Fire 7-7. Andrews 7-3 Rambo Waltzer 7-2. Haveyorn 6-7. Magic Lake 6-0 BETTING: 7-1 Gladys Athorpe, 8-1 High Premium, 18-1 Retsel County, 12-1 Satlan, Mapte Bay, 14-1 Handsdey Hill, 16-1 Catch The Lights, 20-1 offers 1995: STONE RIDGE 3-8-5 Dane O'Nest (25-1) R Hamon 23 ran

FORM FOCUS

CONCER UN completed double, best My Best Valendro short-head or 14-maner handicap at Roberts (71, good to soit) on goodbrothe stat. REBEL COUNTY bed Warming Transfs 14th in 12-maner handicap at Haydock 1m. soit).

HIGH PREMIUM best Assable 14th in 24-maner handicap at Haydock 1m. soit).

MPULSIVE AIR best HAWNSLEY HILL (2th worse off) 14th 15th, NAPLE BAY (6th bester off) 14th 15th, NAPLE CELLINH 12 and of 23 to Scenations tucky in bandicap at York (1m. good) with PRIDE OF PENDLE 11th bester off) 14th 6th 15th, ROYAL CELLINH 12 and of 23 to Scenations tucky in bandicap at York (1m. good) with PRIDE OF PENDLE 11th bester off) 14th 6th Sefection: REBEL COUNTY

2.20 OWEN BROWN HOUGHTON CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £6.164; 71) (6 runners)

41 DANETANE 17 (G) (M Tabus) N Carlaphar 9-1 Pat Eddlery B9
2 BINTANG TIMOR B (BF) (A Stuth) P Coir 8-12 TOulan
2 CRIMSON TOLE 17 (C Wright) 14/812 8-12 M YBIS
6 CRIMSON TOLE 17 (C Wright) 14/812 8-12 CRIMSON TOLE 17 (C Wright) 14/812 8-12 S Sandon 6
6 CRIMER CLUB 17 (Dulle OI Despositing) 1 Toller 8-12 S Sandon 6
6 RIUSSIAN RULER (L Fust) A Janus 8-12 J Reid — BETTRIC: 2-1 Blotting Timor, 5-2 Danetime, 100-30 Crimson Tide, 9-2 Generalis Libra, 10-1 Other Chib, 10-1 Resident 1995: BABINDA 8-12 8 Doyle (2-1) C Bristain 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANETIME bost Indian Brate 1991 in 5-numer resident at Newcastle (6), good), BINTANG TRIADR SINCE of 13 to Both Words in maiden at Accol (6) good).

CRIMISON TOE '10 Dances With Dreams in malden at Accol (6) good).

CRIMISON TOE '12 2nd of 48 to Dacot ut making at Salisbury (7), good to soft), GENEROUS LIBRA (localed Mar 23) 1-481-brother by Generous to some!

White SE Inc.
Selection: BINTANG TRIADR

COURSE SPECIALISTS Wins Rnrs Pal Eddery L Charnock L Delton W R Seinburn S Sanders 42.9 23.6 21.1 18.8 15.2 7 292 38 117 66

course and dustance whomes, BF — beaten lawnurite in latest race). Going an which horse has wen (F — fam, good to firm, tand. G — good, S — soll, good to soll, heavy). Owner in brackets Trainer. Age and weight, Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.00 TOTE CESAREWITCH HANDICAP (£48,770: 2m 2f) (26 runners) 301 (22) IS1301 BETTER OFFER 20 (F,G) (Mrs W Samer) G Harwlood 4-10-0 (4ee) W R Salebharn 302 (2) IS11/65 CAPTAIRTS GARST 20 n/Cl F C: 0. Parketent G United No. 1

1995; OLD RED 5-7-11 L Charnock (11-1) Mrs M Reveley 21 Jan

FORM FOCUS

BETTER OFFER beat Sheer Davzy 11/4 it 20-1 Floothedt 51 in 8-miner handicap at Yammuth (2m. miner handicap at Ascot (1m 41, wood), ORCHES-1 21, good to limit). BALLYNAKELLY dead-healed

minist randica) of Ascot (firm 41, bood), Orichies
TRA STALL beat EMBRYDONIC (9th before oil) 5 in
10-times handicar at Newcastle (2m, good) with
14-times thandicar at Newcastle (2m, good) with
14-times thandicar at Newcastle (2m, good) with
14-times thandicar at Newcastle (2m, good) and SEA VICTOR (10th better oil) short-head 9th, CANDLE
SMLE beat Ascistic 8 in 6-times thandicar at
600000000 (2m, good to firm), JTYUSH beat
Selections cacut (2m 2t, good), GOOD
14-NIO beat Mighty Phaytom 5 im 4-times beadlicart flydate (7m 6t, firm)
Selections CANON CAN (nap)

3.35 OLIVIER DOUIEB MEMORIAL RATED HANDICAP C4 (£8,967: 5I) (23 runners)

FOURIERING 9-1 Bolstoit, 8-1 AM Bergerac, 9-1 Sir Joey, Safreed, 12-1 Thai Man Again, Midnight Escape, 14-1 Aractionan, Portalet, 16-1 others 1995: CROFT POOL 4-8-7 S O Williams (9-1) J Glover 12 can

at Associat, good) PORTELET best incider Trader
Vill in 13-hument bundican at Memorathe 15, good to
firm). AFR BEHGERAC 1942 and of 28 to Coastal
Blatt in hardican at Ave (61, good to firm) with
SOUSHOL 18th worse off) 31 8th. LASO OF
VARAMO (4th better off) 1941 11th. 2005/YS
DANCER (2th better off) 1941 11th. 2005/YS
DANCER (2th better off) 11 13th. TEDRUPRION
(6th better off) 3942 20th and 552-DIEER (5th better
off) 1941 21th. SR JOEY 21 3rd of 17 to Talson in
handicap 34 Association.

BOLSHO! beat Sammar 11/1 in 17-corner handicap at Ascot (51, good) PORTELET heat incader Trader Via in 13-corner bandicap at Memorable (51, good to family with 13-corner bandicap at Apr (61, good to family with 150LSHO! (50) worse off) 31/1 11/1 11/1 205CYS DANCER (21b better off) 11/1 11/1 205CYS DANCE

4.15 DUBAI CHAMPION STAKES

501 (5) 511123 FIRST ISLAND 21 (D.F.G) (Molters Racing) 6 Wrapp 4-9-2 ... M Hale 502 (2) 0-10111 MALLING 80 (C.D.F.G.S) (Geolophin 1 S bin Serior 5-9-2 ... L Datton 1 State 502 (2) 10-10111 MARLING 80 (C.D.F.G.S) (Geolophin 1 S bin Serior 5-9-2 ... L Datton 1 State 502 (3) 12-2015 EVEN 1079 44 (C.G.) (S Schmod-Region 1 M Templates 3-8-11 ... T Cumm 504 (3) 12-2015 EVEN 1079 44 (C.G.) (S Schmod-Region 1 M Templates 3-8-11 ... T Cumm 505 (6) 142-443 GLORY OF DANCER 35 (D.F.G.S) (A Estizoin) P Nelsway 3-8-11 ... O Pesker 1 So (4) 11-112 BOSRA SHAM 21 (C.F.S) (W Said) I Exer 10p, First Island, 33-1 Glory Of Cancer 1995 SECTION 3-1 Date 5-11 P. Channel-Holm 8 Day 1995: SPECTRUM 3-8-10 J Rest :5-11 P Chapple-Hyam 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

FIRST ISLAND basi oftent, best Charmwood Forest 11 in 10-runner group I Sudsex Stakes at Goodwood 11 to, good to lend). HALLING completed testile, best FIRST ISLAND 31 in group I Judicinouse lateralational Stakes at York (1m 21 85yd, goed). TIMARIOA completed insbie, best Dance Design 1941 in group 1 trich Champion Stakes at Leopardskrien (1m 21, good), with GLORY OF

4.45 BEDFORD LODGE HOTEL BENTINCK STAKES (Listed race; £12,254: 6f) (15 runners)

1995; ROYALE REGIRENC 4-8-8 J Feet 19-2; 12 Fetterston-Godley 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

KEMPTON PARK

2.15 Clay County. 2.50 Classic Defence. 3.20 Chief's Song. 3.55 Bertone, 4.30 Amancio. 5.00 Barna Boy.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES (CHASE COURSE); GOOD TO FIRM (HURDLES)

2.15 FERRY BOAT HANDICAP CHASE (£4,351: 2m) (4 runners)

1 10U- CLAY COURTY 177 (D.F.E.S.) M Hammord 11-12-0 R Santby (5) 2 211F CAPTAIN INEDITY 13 (CD.BF.F.E.S.) P Nicholis 0-10-13 A P McCoy 95 3 31-2 SUPER TACTICS 13 (C.D.G.S.) R Ainer 8-10-0 . P Herby (5) 98 4 6PS- LASATA 217 (D.G.S.) R Carson 11-10-0 D Motris 94 6-4 Captain Kirotive, 7-4 Super Tactics, 2-1 Clay County, 12-1 Casata.

2.50 RIVERDALE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE

A CHEF TOO FAR 7F R Rowe 10-12 ... L Aspell (3)
CLASSIC DEFENCE 56F I Hills 10-12 ... J Dishorms
PREMER GENERATION 17F O Arbustinot, 10-12 R Demondor
SOLDIER BLUE 13P Hobbs 10-12 ... D J Kimmanagh (5)
SOLDIER BLUE 13P Hobbs 10-12 ... D J Kimmanagh (5)
SOLDIER SOCCASION 42F B Alember's 10-12 ... A P NecCopy
SUNLEY SOCCASION 42F B Alember's 10-12 ... A P NecCopy
1 TARRY 23 (O.6) A Streeter 10-12 ... G Bradley
17PHOON LAD 25F 50 on 10-12 ... A Dickson
CAST A RLY 410F M Salamon 10-7 ... I Lawrence

3.20 CAPTAIN QUIST HURDLE (£4,765; 2m) (5) 1 3P4- CHEF'S SONG 55F (D.G) S Dow 0-11-8 R Demendey 94 2 641- HOME COUNTIES 9F (D.F.C.S) 0 Mother 7-11-8 0 J Mother 3 105- WARM SPELL SF (CD.G) G 1 Mother 6-11-6 ... A P NECCO 93 4 1FP- CRIMERIAN CHALLENGE 205 (D.F.G.S) 1 Easterly 7-11-5 ... 5 20-P OUR ISRS 14 (V.O.S) N Handerson 4-10-13 . M. A Fizzgrand 83

9-4 Home Counties. 5-2 Cine's Song 7-2 Our Kris, 4-1 Cumbran Challenge, 7-1 Warm Speti

3.55 CHARISMA GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE

2-1 General Crack, 4-1 Basard Dies: 9-2 Bostone, 5-1 Royal Vacatros, 6-1 Sir Pet Leb: 16-1 Alcanoscas, 75-1 Neveda Gold

4.30 THAMES NOVICES CHASE

2. (25) Constant Cons

5.00 PARK HANDICAP HURDLE

1 U10- HDPS AND PDPS 195 (C.D.F.E.S.) R Alner 3-12-0 P Hamley (5) 94
2 40U- BARRAN BDY 182 (E.S.) R Handerson 0-11-11 M A Fizzperald 98
3 /80- FRESI EARTH 281 (CD.F.S.) J Farchane 8-10-11. J Osborne 94
4 U5-2 CALL MY GLEST 14 (E.S.) R Pescock 8-10-11. A P McCoy (9)
5 BFP- GMUS A CALL 232 (S) J Gifford 6-10-0 L Aspell (3) 85
2-1 Hopp And Pope. 5-2 Barea Boy. 11-1 Call My Guez, 9-2 Fined Earth, 10-1
Ghus A Call

TRAINERS: C Mann. 3 womers from 7 runners. 42.9%, R Almer. 7 from 23, 30.4%, P Nacholis, 4 from 14, 28.6%, N Sakley, 11 from 48, 22.9%, N Henderson, 12 from 67, 17.9%, N Gastele. 3 from 20, 15.6%, JUCKEYS: J. Osbornot. 22 womers from 104 rules. 21.2%, R Durwoody, 19 from 100, 19.0%, M A Pitzyecki, 15 from 80, 18.2%, A P McCoy, 6 from 35, 17.1%; C Uswellys, 4 from 35, 11.4%, G Bradley, 5 from 50, 10.0%.

KELSO

THUNDERER 2.00 Side Of Hill. 2.30 Tighter Budget. 3.05 Adametic. 3.40 Rocket Run. 4.10 Eden Dancer. 4.40 Royal Circus.

GOING: FIRM (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

2.00 EDINBURGH CITY FOOTBALL CLUB AMATEUR RIDERS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,178: 2m 6l 110yd) (7 runners)

2.30 RANK HOVIS MILLERS ROTHBURY HOME BAKERY NOVICES CHASE (£2,762: 3m 1() (6)

7-4 Side Oi Hill, 11-4 Teacher 9-2 Dengar, 6-1 Overwhelm, 7-1 Grace And Fav 8-1 Wee Tato, 16-1 Walk in The Wild

1 4-(1 TIGHTER BUDGET 13 COLF.G.S) Wits H Sept 9-11-13 M Malaney 2 P-02 CALDER'S GROVE B Miss L Perati 0-10-13 _______ G Catell (3) 3 /K-3 KINCARDINE BRIDGE 23 (F) Miss S Bootoure 7-10-13

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSPS: Mrs M Rendey, 32 vinters from 106 natures, 30.2%; Mrs J Goodshow, 12 from 44, 27 3%, 6 Moons, 11 from 51, 27 6%; Mes L Rusself, 3 from 15, 20.0%; M Harmond, 18 from 81, 19 8% JOCKEYS: P Niveri. 43 witness from 112 rules. 38 4%; M Moloney. 12 from 57, 21.1%, A Dobben. 25 from 123, 20.3%; A Thornton. 9 from 46, 19.6%, N Bentley, 5 from 32, 15.6%

PASSION FOR LIFE best Hener Colf Rose 341 in 13-runner group II Bestates Recover at Baden Baden Isted race at Jaurich (El 110yd, colf) CARRANITA (El good), STRUGGIJER best Hener Golf Rose II at 3-runner best ATRAF fills warse oil) 1 (in 11-runner best) 3-runner best ATRAF fills warse oil) 1 (in 11-runner best) are over course end ristance (61, good to solf) firm) on perutiferate start with AVERTI 31 bits.

form) on permutiments start with AVERTI 31 Git; LICKY States and Associated Associated and Associated Associa

5.20 NGK SPARK PLUGS HANDICAP (£6,836:7f) (22 runners)

SASEDO 1%1 3rd of 12 to Highborn or handicap over course and distance (pincé lo firm) with LAW COMMISSION 2%1 5th and SEIGNEUTIM. (20b better off) neck 5th. WARMING TRENDS VI 2nd of 27 to Persian Fayre m transficap at York (71, good) LOUGH ERWE 51 and head 3rd of 22 to Garmock Valley in brandicap at Haydock (61, soll) with CHMR-LIE SILLETT (21b better off) 71 6th. BROUGHTOMS TURMORL VI 2nd of 16 to Don't Get Caught in

handicap over course and distance (good to firm) with MY GALLERY (5to better oil) 394-15to CASTAN beat Catosy Cheel note in 17-runner transcens at Notingham (1m, good). FLYING PENANT head 2nd of 18 to General Haves in handicap at Window (1m 6fyrt, good). AMPLER FORT 344 2nd of 18 to See Danzig to tendicap at Lingdeld (7), poort.

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Catterlok: 205 Fruitena. 2.40 Keshana 5.30 Godinersham Perk Kelso: 200 Overwhelm, 4.10 Nonios, Field Of Vision. Newmarket: 1.45 Easy Jet. Cool Fire, Blaze OI Song Wolverhampton: 7.00 Smithereens. 9.30 Red Rusty.

3.05 WEATHERBYS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

3.40 GREENMANTLE ALE ANTHONY & JOHNNIE MARSHALL TROPHY (Handicap chase; £3,453; 3m 1f) (4) ARSHALL TROPHY (Handicap Chase: 15.400; on: 11/17/
1 403- OMER THE DED. 168 (C.F.G.S.H. Johnson 10-11-10. N. Wellsonson
2 53-4 845 DE LAINE 13 (E.F.G. M. Harmond 10-11-2. P. Miren
3 22-4 ROCKET RIM (35 (CD.BF.F.G.) Mos. L. Risson B-10-12. A. Thornton
4 -PD2 OFF THE BRU 13 (CD.F) Mrs. S. Bradburne 11-10-0.
Mr M. Bradburne (7)

4.10 EXTRORDINAIR HANDICAP HURDLE 1 441- TOM BROOTE 194 (D.F.G.S) H Johnson 5-12-0 N Williamson 2 1-33 EDISH DANCER 16 (D.F.) Mrs M Reveloy 4-11-8 P Riven 3 1312 FIELD DF VISION 16 (B.F.) Mrs A Swinform 6-11-3 J Suppole 4 33PS VAM PRINCE 13 (B.C.D.F.G.S.) N Tricker 9-11-2 A Theoretics 5 3-22 NOWICS 8 (Y.C.F.) G Moore 5-11-0 N Bestley

4.40 w & T HARKIN HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,528: 2m 6f 110yd) (5)

6-4 Jossen, 5-2 Hacholes Plant, 3-1 Croiton Lake, 7-1 others

2-1 Montos 3-1 Tom Brooks, Field Of Vision. 4-1 Eden Dance: 7-1 Vain Prince.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newmarket

Newmarket
Geing: good
1.30 (7)1 1, Squeek (I. Deflori, 2-5 tavl, 2.
Flowing Fortune (7-3): 3, Instacpher (7-3): 3
ran. 81, 31 J Gooden Toter £1 40 DF £1 60
CSF £1 97
2.00 (6) 1, Belved Alastica (D Hamson, 33-1).
2, Miss Sancerre (20-1), 3, Kurnen (7-1)
Polist Romande 11-4 tav £2 tan 11 1-1 A
Servent Toter £5 60, £10 20, £3 30, £2 20
DF £257 00 Tho £617 20, CSF £524 80
2.35 (1m 1), 1, Taraven (R Hughes, 9-2,
Thanderer's napi, 2, Nijo (20-1); 3, Forest
Buck (2-1 tavl) (10 ran 2 tsl, 11 N Callaghan
Toter £5 50 €1 80, £2 00, £7 70 F £45 90
Trio £46 40, CSF £73 34
3,05 (7) 1, Moonleyth Paradiss (I, Detion,

3.05 (7) 1. Moonlight Paradiss (L. Deton, 11-8 (a.) 2. Dazzle (2-1), 3. Serenty (8-1) 6 ran 2 vi 1 vi Sasad bin Suroor Tote 22-40 £1,20 £130 DF £1,90 CSF £4,20

\$1.20 \$2.130 DF \$2.30 CSF \$4.20
3.40 [711 1. In Command (M Hills, 10-1), 2
Musical Pausin (13-2); 3. An Express [50-1)
Behamen Bounty, Kerlel 7-2 (f-lovs 8 ran
Hd, nk, B Hills Tote \$10.80, £1.40 £2.30,
\$4.70 DF \$71.50 CSF, £63.33
4.15 (1m) 1. Bold Words (M Hills, 8-1), 2.
Juliotta Min (14-1) 3. Tom Tailor (16-1) 4,
Madame Chinnery (8-1) Love Has No Pride
7-2 law 17 ran NR Tinherbell 31 21 E
Dunlop Tote £9.40 £2.10, £5.70, £6.30,
£2.20 DF £18.2.10 Too £1,800 €0 CSF
£115.50 Trocas £1,701 17
4.50 (1m 6) 1. Flamands (I. Detron, 11-4
lav); 2. Mount Pleasant (7-1), 3. Enerby Park
[6-1], 8.3an Nr. \$1, Cumant Tote £3.60,
£1.70, £2.90, £2.40 DF £6.30 CSF £20.52
Tocas £1.24 18
Jackpot; £7,100.00 (0.10 winning tickets,

Jackpot: £7,100.00 (0.10 winning tickets, pool of £7,985.38 carried toward to

Newmarket loday).
Placapot: £1.214.50. Quadpot: £93.50. Catterick Bridge Going: good

2.10 (7) 1, Kadeena (7 Wijkams, 10-11 2, Kalimat (15-8 tav) 3, Borne Lassie (11-2) 11 tar. 197, nd. M. Johnston Tote, 611,30; 6280, 61,10, 6260 DF-617-60, Tno. 634-00 CSF 628-83. 2.45 (5f) 1. Sarabl (J Curra, 33-1), 2. Donna's Dancer (9-1); 3. Express Gri (10-1) 4.25 (1m 3/ 214yd) 1, Leszm Alooz (6 Perham 11-4 ji-tsy); 2, Totally Yours (25-1), 3, Bascod (12-1), Solder Mai 11-4 ji-tsy 15 ran 1-4, 2xd. R Prillips Tota, 54-80, £1,80, £4-30, £3.10. DF £80-10 Trio: £406-40 CSF £64-50

5.00 (fm 3) 214yd) 1 Typhoon Eight J Cerroli (14-1) 2 Almuthlaram (7-1) 3 Rasayet (20-1) All On Askern Tessape 100-30 (r-lass 13 ran Nr. 1 d B Huls Tota 16-20 03 00, 03 10 04 80 DF 941 50 Tho 997 60 CSF 9106 83 Thicast 91 829 66 5.30 (5/2/2/d) 1 Lady Diesis (J Canoli 4-11 taxt 2, Fulcoep (12-1), 3 Commant Av (25-1) 8 ran 31 -0 B Hills Tote 21 30 (27-0) 64 50, 24 90 DF £8 60 CSF £6 17

Hereford

1.50 (2m 11 ndle) 1 Sounds Like Fun (J F Titley, 1-2 lav) 2 Seven Wells (5-1), 3 Chiel Gale (5-2) 4 (3m 2 h 2 h 1 Miss H knight Tote £1.40 DF £3.50 CSF £4.55 2.20 jm 11:10 xd chi 1 Same Day Soon (P Holley 11:8 tov), 2 Paper Star (7:1), 3 Fongrove (11:1) 5 ran 20, 11: M Bractstock, Tota 52:30, 51:10, 63:10 DF 54:50 CSF 510:11

2.55 (3m 3) nd(e) 1, Humbers Rock (C O'Dwyer 7-4 (ev) 2, Copper Cof (11-2) 3 Mister Blake (5-1) B ran 2, d 111 K Balley Tote 52.50 (C 110, £1 10 C 1.50 OF \$7.30 CSF- £11 1.3

4 D0 (2m 3) ch) 1, Karlovas (A Magaire 7-2) 2, King's Shilling (4-4); 3 Ryton Run (6-1) Martha's Deughter (0-1) (3w 5 ran 7), 70 R Lee 7010 £480, £3.70, £2.90 DF £11.40 CSF £15.77 CSF £15 77.
4.36 (2m 31 10 /chide) 1 Born To Please IA
9 McCoy, 3-1) 2, Corm Hid (3-1) 3, Cras s
Glant4-11 Re Bol 5-2 (av (bid) 5 cm 18 (59 P
Hobbs 7 ob E 3.80, £2.20, £1 (0 OF £5 30
CSF £11 91

Placepot £58.10. Quadpot £16.20 RACELINE 0930 1684 COMMENTARY NEWMARKET 101 201 CATTERICK 102 202 KEMPTON STRATFORD 104 204 KELSO 105 205 W'HAMPTON 106 IRISH

Pick up the phone *PICK UP A £10* FREE BET*

FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking \$25 or more using Switch or Delta bank or building society debit cards.

TOTE GESAREWITCH HANDICAP

7/2 Jiyush 40/1 Blaze Away 40/1 Chris's Lad 4/1 Canon Can 7/1 Orchestra Stall 40/1 Danjing 8/1 Candle Smile 40/1 En Vacances

10/1 Ballynakelly 10/1 Ivor's Flutter 14/1 Harbour Island 14/1 Trainglot 16/1 Inchcailloch 20/1 Better Offer

33/1 Embryonic

33/1 Good Hand

40/1 Sea Victor 50/1 Sea Plane . 50/1 Secret Service 66/1 Runaway Pete 100/1 Paradise Navy 25/1 Captain's Guest 150/1 Claireswan 150/1 Witney-De-Bergerac

200/1 Granby Bell

40/1 Floating Line

Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2, 3,4 Prices subject to Iluctuation Available up to First Show, Tattersalls Rule #(cl may apply Non numer - no bot **DUBAI CHAMPION** STAKES

4/5 Halling 9/4 Bosra Sham 11/2 Timarida

14/1 First Island 16/1 Even Top 33/1 Glory Of Dancer Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2 Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to First Show, Tatturnalis Rule 4(c) may apply Non runner – no br



المكذا من الأصل

8.30 3.1111

930

Footballer goes:

in search of

broader canvas

the length and breadth of the

country. Pierpaolo Curti, a

striker for the Serie C club,

Fiorenzuela, has no doubts on

the maner. That is why he has

given up football.
"My lifetime's ambition was

to play as a professional," he said. "I have achieved that

dream, but it has been a rude

awakening. I realised that a

part of me has been wiped out.

Too much soccer was stilling

my creativity as an artist." Curti has had several exhibi-

rions of his paintings locally.

He scored 36 goals last season

with another club, Soresinese.

"Pierpaolo has made his deci-

sion and we can do nothing to

change it," Riccardo Francani.

said. "It's a shame, because we

had great hopes for him." He could have been a lovely little

passer of the ball, but he

would go and paint that Sistine Chapel.

True romantic

Tell me, what is style?

Alessandro Veronese, a 26-

year-old striker, was playing for Battaglia against Rocca in

a non-league match in Italy, which was referred by Anna

Di Toni. Di Toni is, as you rightly deduce, female. Di

Toni booked Veronese for

handball and then, later into

the game, she booked him

again - this time for taking off

his shirt as he celebrated scoring a goal. Veronese shook hands with the referee and then kissed her. Twice.

Battaglia won 2-0. However,

the matter did not end there,

Veronese has been banned for

two matches: one for the

sending-off and one for the

kisses. "We think there are

going to be a lot more women

referees around in a few years'

time," Sergio Rigo, who judged the case, said. "What's

going to happen if players

think they have the right to

kiss them or stroke their

Copycat keeper

The goalkeeper-of-the-week award goes to Rafael Dudamal,

who scored from a free kick for

Venezuela against Argentina.

Poor old Argentinal For, as

faithful readers of this column

will remember, they also con-

ceded a goal to a goalie in their

match against Paraguay, when

the ever-splendid José Luis

Chilavert hammered in another free kick, Chilavert did it

again in midweek, scoring for his club, Velez Sarsfield, against the Paraguayan club, Olimpia, Sarsfield, of course,

When England played Poland

at Wembley the other week, the best player on the pitch was Piotr Nowak, who was on

the other side. He plays for

Munich 1860 and, since his

performance that night, the

are from Argentina.

Vale of tears

hair?" What indeed?

Fiorenzuola manager.

JOBER 19 1996

time bomb

RACING: HILLS POSTS FIRST GROUP SUCCESS OF SEASON WITH DEWHURST VICTORY

مكذا من الأصل

In Command fails to make classic appeal

BY ROBERT WRIGHT

TWICE in the last four years, the winner of the Dewhurst Stakes has gone on to success in the 2,000 Guineas. How-ever, gursy though In Command was in yesterday's renewal, it is hard to envisage him following in the hoofprints of Pennekamp and Bounty shared favouritism at 7-2 with Kahal. Zafonic.

Michael Hills, the winning jockey, is nonetheless looking forward to next season. "He'll stay a mile - no problem," he said. The bookmakers were less excited, with Coral offering a dismissive 25-1 for the

However, that mattered little to the winning trainer. Barry Hills, who expressed great relief at saddling his first group winner of the season. Only Henry Cecil and I have trained a group winner every year since the Pattern began in 1971, and I was running out of time," he said.

In Command was beaten just over a length when third

THUNDERER

GOING: STANDARD

7.00 ATRIENA HANDICAP

(3-Y-0: £2,415: 5f) (13 runners)

7.30 HERA CLAIMING STAKES

(2-Y-0: £2,415: 61) (13)

WOLVERHAMPTON

7.00 Songsheat, 7.30 Commander Jones, 8.00 Imposing Time, 8.30 Nigel's Lad, 9.00 Princess Of Hearts, 9.30 People Direct.

3-1 Night Harmony, 4-1 Napier Star, 5-1 Songsheet, 6-1 Bistong, 10-1 others,

8.00 APOLLO HANDICAP (£3,210: 61) [13)

8.30 ZEUS HANDICAP (£3,210: 1m 4l) (12)

9.00 PLYVINE CATERING FILLIES SELLING STAKES (2-Y-D: £2.415: 1m 100yd) (13)

9.30 APHRODITE HANDICAP (£2,415: 1m 100yd) (13)

2,415: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 005- TANSEED 229J (D,F) M Mongher 5-10-0. A Collisine 5
2 25:01 TWN CREEKS 30 (D,F,G) V Scane 5-9-13 ... 6 Sanders 11
3 0613 PEOPLE ORGECT 42 (CD,I.3) k McAuffille 3-9-17 ... J F Egan 6
4 3060 SANDMOOR DENIM 40 (CD,F,G,S) 5 Bourting 9-9-9 J Dustrin 4
5 6040 DOMBHOR FYER 14 (E,S) Mrs. A Switcham 3-9-9 . J Charten 13
6 3550 MARAN 17 (B,F,G) 6 Braney 8-9-9 ... North 13
7 500 ARAN 17 (D,F,G) 6 Braney 8-9-8 ... Switcham 3-9-6 ... Switcham 13
9 5000 RED RUSTY 22 (B,D,G) 10 Monts 3-9-6 ... N Day 1
10 0233 ANNER MCCOATUP 5 B McMaham 3-9-6 ... N Day 1
10 0233 ANNER MCCOATUP 5 B McMaham 3-9-6 ... P McCabe (3) 3
12 5040 THAN MORRAMOR 19 (D,F,G) T Mail 6-9-6 ... P McCabe (3) 3
12 5040 THAN MORRAMOR 17 (F) P Narra 3-9-5 ... R Mohles (7) 12
North Arden 3-1 Allesars Rocket, 5-1 People Olined, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Bravery, 3 winsers from 11 numers, 27.3%; M Johnston, 40 from 165, 24.2%, P Vasism, 27 from 129, 20.9%; J Glover, 11 from 54, 20.4%, 6 Levis, 11 from 57, 19.3%.

JOCKEYS: 6 Carter, 42 womers from 224 roles, 16 6%; P McCabe, 7 from 52, 13 5%; T Sprale, 12 from 96, 12.5%; B Doyle, 9 from 72, 12.5%; F Lynch, 14 from 115, 12.2%; O Wright, 24 from 200, 12.0%

5-2 North Arcter, 3-1 Alistars Rocket, 5-1 People Oirect, 8-1 others.

1 3003 CAVERS YANGOUS 21 (V.D.G.S) M Johnston 5-10-0 K Shed (7) 3
2 2002 MROCSING TIME 28 (B.B.F.G.) Miss following 5-9-13 6 Sanders 13
3 410 DECC AMBO 90 (F) B Falling 3-9-12. T Sported 4
8000 MAIL ARSH 101. L AD 12 (C.B.S.) B Mediation 3-9-11. G Existe 6
5 DOS1 WALK THE SEAT 14 (CO.J.G.S.) M Meach 6-9-11 D Sweemby (7) 8
6 4200 SANOUTH ASSET 17 (C.D.G.S.) A Balley 8-9-1. S Whiteful (5) 7
1000 LEGAL ASSUE 7 (F.G.S.) W Traph 4-9-8. S Whiteful (5) 12
9 DO45 ALL MORET TERM 22 (B) C.D.G.S.) A Balley 6-9-7. D Wingto (5) 12
9 DO45 ALL MORET TERM 22 (B) C.D.G.S.) A Capping 5-9-4 A Dubrace 18
10 DOCS CHEEKY CHAPPY 14 (B.C.D.F.G.S.) D Capping 5-9-4 A Dubrace 18
11 2200 NO KRB 87 3 (B.F.F.S.) 1 Monghata 5-9-4. D Graffins (5) 5
13 DO42 BOLD ARSTOCRAT 14 (D.G.) FI Holdenshad 5-9-3. F Lynch (3) 2
1-1 Walt The Ged. 4-1 Tangonum 7 Inn. 7-1 Capping 3-9-00, Allwork Them. 9-1

1 1120 TROUBADOUR SDNG 44 (CD,G) W Halph 4-10-0 P McCabe (S) 6 2 2000 MBCE-8 LAD 14 (F,G) P Hestern 4-9-12 J Forsino 2 3 1215 GLOW FORUM 9 (CD,GF,F,G,S) L Montague HM 5-9-11

ORAW: NO ADVANTAGE

to Bahamian Bounty, who is also owned hy Maktoum Al-Maktoum, in the Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket earlier this month. As a result, he was sporting the second colours yesterday, and was returned a 10-1 chance, while Bahamian

The winning trainer explained: "He's done well physically since the Middle Park. and the drop of rain we had has made all the difference to

Musical Pursuit cut out the early running with Kahal but, having been a little outpaced two furlongs from home, he stayed on determinedly to be just a head adrift at the line. Representing the trainer-owner combination of Mark

Tompkins and Benny Schmidt-Bodner, who run Even Top in today's Champion Stakes, Musical Pursuit will now be put away and trained for the 2,000 Guineas.

Tompkins said: "I'm delighted. Pat | Eddery | said he was very babyish when he picked him up, but when he got the message he was gaining all the way to the line. He coughed after winning at Newmarket in August, and if I could got have got one more run into him, it would have made him more battle hardened."

With Air Express, a 50-1 shot, just a neck away in third, and the whole field covered by four lengths, the form appears dubious. Indeed, bookmaker reaction to the Guineas centred on Bahhare and Revoque. Both have beaten in Command this summer, and have been trimmed to 4-1 and 11-2 respectively by William

While In Command will stay with Hills, Bahamian Bounty and Moonlight Paradise, who had earlier beaten Dazzle in the Rockfel Stakes. will both winter in Dubai.



In Command, right, fends off Musical Pursuit in the Dewhurst Stakes yesterday

Japanese interested in Zagreb

BY OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT

ZAGREB, the runaway Irish Derby winner, may run his last race in the Breeders' Cup Turf in Toronto next Saturday, the colt's trainer, Dermot Weld, said yesterday.

Weld, who confirmed Zagreb a likely runner in the 12-mile contest at Woodbine, added: "There has been strong Japanese interest in Zagreb as a stallion."

Zagreb has run just four times and was well beaten in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp on his only start since his impressive display at the Curragh. Today, however, Weld will be concentrating

on Humbel, who attempts a second successive victory in the £40,000 group two Blandford Stakes at the Curragh. Humbel leads a strong home defence against Sanoosea, the British raider, for whom Michael Stoute has booked

Sanoosea, fourth of five behind Hagwah at Goodwood last time, faces a stiff task and

2.05 Hajat, 2.40 Break The Rules, 3.15 Grate Times. 3.50 Insider Trader, 4.25 North Bear, 4.55 Maryle-bone, 5.30 Classy Chief.

2.05 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND PROSPECT HILL MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: E3,698: 51) (14 runners)

2.40 PLODMIRE WOOD APPRENTICE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,637: 1m 3f 214yd) (13)

1 4042 BREAK THE HULES 13 (D,f.5) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-7

2 LDST DREAM C Dwyer 7-8-2 De Hummun (3) 2

3 0045 PETOSKIN 16 (S) J Pearce 4-9-2 M Baard 7

4 1905 PHARLY DWARCH 11 (20.0.5) W Haigh 7-9-0 L Newton 5

5 5000 CROSS TALK 28 (C,F.5) N Tokler 4-9-12 F Lyoch 1

7 4046 DWAR POINT 154 (F) 7 Barron 4-9-10 Victoria Appleby (7) 3

6 D STHONORINE 18 C Murray 4-8-11 R Cody-Bouchter (7) 10

9 0000 ANSHMA 25 If Y W Store 4-8-4 Darran Molitat 9

10 -036 SALTY GRU 120 (B) 8 Hilk 3-8-4 Darran Molitat 9

11 4500 PRICERTON POLICA 21 J Parties 4-8-3 A Daily 13

12 00 PRICERTON POLICA 21 J Parties 4-8-3 A Daily 13

13 60 KAYE'S SECRET 30 J L Harris 3-8-1 C Lowding (7) 10

7-3 Rosat The Bases 6-9 Salty Grif Planter Bancer 5-1 Peacein 11-2 Dairy Purt.

7-2 Break The Rules, 8-2 Sally Suri, Pharty Dancer, 5-1 Petoskin, 11-2 Dana Point, 8-1 Cross Talk, 12-1 Pirturkon Polita, 14-1 others.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Folkestone (first race, 2.00), Portistract (2.15)
TUESDAY: Chepatow (2.00), Plumpton (2.20), Warnick (2.10)
WEDNESDAY: Exiter (1.50), Newtostle (2.10), Yarmouth (2.00),
THURSDAY: Luckow (2.20), Newbury (BBC, 2.10), Nottingham
2.00)

(2.00). FRIDAY: Doncester (2.00), Fekenham (2.20), Newbury (BBC.

2 10)
SATURDAY: Carliste (1 55), Doncaster (C4, 1 40), Market Rasen (2 15), Newbury (BBC, 1 30), Worcester (2 05)
SUNDAY: Huntingdon (2 00), Welherby (1 20), Wincartion (2 10)
Flat meetings in bold

3.15 MD FOODS NURSERY HANDICAP

(2-Y-0: £3,574: 71) (16)

1 4042 BREAK THE HULES 13 (D.F.S) Mrs M Reveloy 4-9-7

THUNDERER

GOING: GOOD

DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

Zafzala could be Humbel's most dangerous opponent. Demoted from second to fifth in the Prix Vermeille at Longchamp last time out, Zafzala returned to France to finish third in the Prix Royallieu and has a good chance of a

group win here. Cochrane also rides Anzio, the Gay Kelleway-trained sprinter, in the listed Water-ford Testimonial Stakes, Kelleway said yesterday: "Anzio is in great

form and should run a very respectable race. I think he is best over an easy six furlongs. which he will get at the Curragh." The main dangers to Anzio are the hat-trick seeking Gers Royale and Burden Of Proof, who has been diverted from tomorrow's Prix

de la Foret at Longchamp.

The group three Juddmonte Beresford Stakes for two-year-olds has an all-Irish lineup, with Moon Flower, the Aidan O'Brientrained runner, looking the most likely winner.

4-1 Sitentia, 5-1 Reploy. 6-1 Los Alamos, 13-2 North Rear, 7-1 Children's Choice, 15-2 Farevita Noble, 8-1 lots, 10-1 others.

9-4 Maryletone, 11-4 Enchantica, 7-2 Keen To Plesce, Latton. 8-1 Sorth, 66-1 Opensorefine

5.30 close of Play Handicap (£3,860: 7f) (20)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: B Hills: 20 winners from 49 numers; 40 B%: J Fanshawn, 4 from 13, 30.6%; J Bosden, 5 from 17, 29 4%; P Chapple-Hyam, 4 from 15, 25.7%; M Chamson, 8 from 36, 25.0%; D Chapple-Hyam, 4 from 15, 25.0%; K Carley, 31 from 150, 20.7%; M Baled, 3 from 15, 20.0%, J Carroll, 30 from 172, 17.4%, O Pears, 9 from 61, 14.8%.

4.55 SOUR BECK CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,282: 5f) (6)

4.25 THIEVES GILL LIMITED STAKES (E2,910: 1m 51 175yd) (12)

3.50 CROW HOLE BANK HANDICAP

STRATFORD

HANDICAP HURDLE (F2,444: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

3-1 San Dego Charger, 7-2 Pair Of Jacks, 4-1 Fierce, 5-1 others

1 14U2 STATELY HOME 5 (CD.F.6) P Bowen 5-12-0 A Maguing 2 133- NEWLANDS-GENERAL 183 (D.G.S) P Micholis 18-11-12 P Vilda

5-2 Newtands-General, 7-2 Stately Home, 5-1 Newtrall Prince, Northern Optovist, 0-1 Reposter, 10-1 Shrood John, Eastern Magic

4.00 WILLIAM HILL HANOICAP HURDLE

(£3,652: 2m 3f) (7)

5.05 BARNSLEY ASSOCIATES NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£3,155: 2m 6f 110yd) (17)

4 6002 CLASSY CHEF 18 R 80s 3-9-12 Finalises (S) 15 5000 COMANCIE CORPANION 7 (9.F.8.5) 1 Nameton 6-9-12 D Utbran 12 6 0000 FAME AGANA 7 (0.C.S) Mrs J Ramadon 4-9-10. M Wighton 9 7 1629 SUPERPRIDE 7 (0.C.S) Mrs J Ramadon 4-9-10. M Wighton 9 1020 UTMOST ZEAL 22 (0.BF.P) P Harra 3-9-8. A McSlove 5 9 0040 DANCING SUDIX 14 (0.6) 0 McHolts 4-9-5. Also Groves 3 10 6050 STACKATTACK 17 P Webber 3-9-4. B Perham 8 11 8000 SHCORE MTADAY 5 (0.F.G.S) J Eyre 0-9-2. S Bottiday (7) 16 13 0446 ALLINSON'S MATE 84 (8.C.O.BF.F.S) 1 Barton 6-9-2 Victoria Application 4 (8.C.P.) J Eyra 3-1. Meriton 20 15 4002 STATISTICAN 4 (8.C.P.) J Eyra 9-1. M Farion 20 16 5010 MAUSHITY PISTOL 22 (4.F.S) P Exers 4-9-0. J F Eyra 17 4652 DESERT BNYADER 18 (0.G.S) D Chapman 5-9-0 J Farming 18 18 0300 SHARP 'N SHADY 92 C Wall 3-8-13 . G Datfield 19 1204 CHELRANG BANG 207 (0.G.S) J Barry 3-8-13 . K Darley 2 30 3042 REGAL FAMES 28 (9.F.S) in Stables 4-9-13. In Hormon (7) 13 5-1 Classy Chef. 8-1 Carrianche Companion, 13-2 Regal Fischer, 7-1 Microle, 5-1 Classy Chef. 8-1 Carrianche Companion, 13-2 Regal Fischer, 7-1 Microle, 5-1 Classy Chef. 8-1 Carrianche Companion, 13-2 Regal Fischer, 7-1 Microle, 5.40 JONES LANG WOOTTON MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,758: 2m 110yd) (15)

4-1 Samba Sharply, 5-1 Blaze Of Oak, 6-1 Flying Fiddler, 7-1 others

THUNDERER 2.25 Pair Of Jacks. 2.55 Shuttlecock. 3.25 Newhall Prince. 4.00 Dally Boy. 4.35 lifeee, 5.05 Tarrs Bridge. 5.40 Samba Sharply.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

2.25 SHOTTERY MEADOW LADY RIDERS

2.55 RICHARDSONS SELLING HURDLE (£2,556: 2m)10yd) (18)

4-1 Musty View, 9-2 Shuttlecock, 5-1 Twice The Groom, 8-1 Pickers, 7-1 Shalik 8-1 Pychley Davin, 18-1 Timely Example, 12-1 others,

3.25 CORSTORPHINE & WRIGHT HANDICAP CHASE (£3,685: 2m 1l 110yd) (7)

4.35 AHP TRAILERS WOMBOURNE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,988: 2m 5f 110yd) (8)

i-2 Gerylough, 3-1 Larry's Lord. 4-1 lifece, Master Boston, 6-1 others

4-1 Mr Strong Gale. 5-1 Cosp Fuzir, 0-1 Linkoni, 7-1 Bitota Decasion, 8-1 Manor Rey, 10-1 Galesc Million, 12-1 orbers.

P2,758: 2m 110yd) (15)

1 30-2 BLAZE OF GAK 5.1 Bradley 5-11-5 ... R Johnson
2 044 - Flying FIDOLER 214 M Roberts 5-11-5 ... 8 Powed
3 630 - NABARA SCHND 182 B Preces 5-11-5 ... A Magnetic
4 - RACING TELESRAPH 177 C Alen 6-11-5 ... J F Duby
5 2 SAMERA SHADPLY 46F (6F) A Hide 5-11-5 ... J F Duby
6 000- SELY MONEY 251 Except y 5-11-5 ... J F Duby
7 50-3 SMART LORID 42 J Bosley 5-11-5 ... M Bosley
8 5 SWAN STREET 208 C Marm 5-11-5 ... J F RABLEY
10 600 BRAYDON FOREST 68F C Deven 4-11-4 ... J W Magnetic
11 023- BOWN 16 CDL 215 F T Castry 4-11-4 ... D White CSI
11 023- BOWN 16 CDL 215 F T Castry 4-11-4 ... D White CSI
12 GRAN 16 GDL 215 F T Castry 4-11-4 ... D White CSI
13 06-4 SAMAKA HARA 13 Golden Ros 4-11-4 ... R Guest
14 00-0 ROSEHALL 35 Mrs T Piltangloo 5-11-0 ... G Hoggo (3)
15 6- SLOE BRANDOY 122F Mrs H Walken 10-11-0 ... Mr A Walken
1 Samba Shamko 5-1 Blaze (0 06, 6-1 F home Fiddler, 7-1 offbers

YES, but what matters more: SIMON BARNES art or sport? It is a question passionately debated every Saturday in football grounds



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On Saturday

club has been besieged by inquiries about him — includ ing from English clubs. No wak might already have beer playing for Port Vale. He had a trial for the Vale and played for their reserves against Burnley, but John Rudge, the Vale manager, did not think that he had what it takes to do : the business in England.

Dream is over

In the United States, they are working on what must be the toughest contest of the year the search for the country's most pretentious athlete. Incidentally, you can register your own vote via the Internet by beaming up Get Real. Athletes nominated include, inevitably. Mike Tyson, "Neon" Deion Sanders and the absurd Dennis Rodman, but the runaway leaders so far are all 12 members of the Olympic bastketball Dream Team. It is somehow reassuring to know that America has grown heartily sick of the whole Dream Team business.

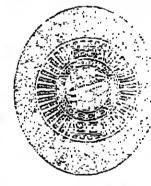
Just good friends

And now one of the grim ones. For 20 years, Salvador Felice da Silva, a supporter of the Rio de Janeiro club, Flamengo, had been a close friend of Severino Laurindo da Silva, not a relation, and not a Flamengo supporter either. Rather, he is. or was, loyal to Flamengo's rivals, Vasco da Gama. The Flamengo da Silva, who is 37, felt the strain of this friendship after Flamengo were beaten by Vasco 4-1. "I could not put up with his daily mickey-taking any longer," he said. "I told him to stop it, but on Sunday he kent bringing up all four goals." So he pulled out his pistol and shot his friend dead.

Deserved rest

I hear of a new contender for the most-raced racehorse. Claims had been held for an American animal named Bucket O' Suds, who raced every year from 1968 to 1980, retiring at the age of 15 after 273 starts. However, he is beaten by Behavin Jerry, who made his last start at Commodore Downs, also in the States, in 1981, when 17. He made 307 starts with 38 wins. Any animal, horse or dog, to rival this?





Taking the pain out of punishment

If you look very hard in football - I mean very, very hard indeed - you can find small, vacant areas that do not actually indeed — you can find small, vacant areas that do not actually bear a sponsor's logo. So Sega, the video games people, are seeking to sponsor the red and yellow cards that referees brandish in the faces of erring players and have approached the Referees' Association with the suggestion. Andy Mee, the company's European marketing director, said: "We hope that each time a referee has to show a player a card, the Sega branding will remind him that, after all, it's only a game, thereby reducing the psychological tension that referees face during a game." Mee's contribution to national gaiety gets him this column's Humbug Award.

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Rundays Bank M.C.	17.9%	£114.68	£5.504.64	1254.40	17.99%	€00.60	P1883-12	£785.64
TSB Bank plc."	18.9%	£116.00	£5.568.00	1317.76	16,9%	£146.88	19,450.24	250256
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We nave the money to hand.

We nave the money the hand.

We nave the money

CRICKET

Pakistan

are put

to flight by

Strang

By OUR SPORTS STAFF SHEIKHUPURA (second doy of five): Pokiston, with four first-innings wickets in hond, ore 186 runs behind

ZIMBABWE, having made

375 in their first innings. further strengthened their

position by capturing six Pa-kistan wickets for 189 on the second day of the first Test

yesterday.
Paul Strang, the leg-spin bowler, led the way by

dismissing four leading Paki-stan basesses

stan batsmen after scoring his maiden century in hining

an uobeaten 106. Zimbabwe's total was their highest against

Pakistan. Their previous best

was 289, scored in the 1993-94

The opening batsmen,

Aamir Sohail and Saeed

Anwar, the experienced Salim

Malik and the Test debutant.

Azam Khan, were the victims

of Strang, who finished the

day with four for 58 from 17

Pakistan batsmen

series in Karachi.

Zimbabwe

ount **IrokerI** ashbac he let ninistc involve

hold te obtain from t IF YO City a

2 Yea 3 Yea

1 Yea

4 Yes 5 Yea

ABBI Holds BHS. 01202 Custo Ethicz Intern Prop Easit Man Cogy Mon Fluc Arigh Linde Japa

ALE 3 Da 0070 Equi Eurx Fixes Gid Int Int 6 Jape N As Froy Mul

glances at Chicago in 1984 when Jones set a world record of 2hr 08min 05sec, and again in 1985 when Joan Benoit, Ingrid Kristiansen and Rosa Mota ran under 2hr 23min

30sec in a Women's race unsurpassed to this day. Jones returned to record 2hr 07min 13sec, failing by one second to regain a share of the world record. Toshihiko Seko ran 2hr 08min 27sec to win in 1986. Then it hit the wall, Its

ATHLETICS

Chicago regains celebrity status

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN CHICAGO

sponsor withdrew in 1987 and

Pinkowski said, accusing the

people in charge of alienating

the local running community. failing to involve them. "You

lined up, you ran the course,

you went through the finish line and you were pushed out

A replacement sponsor ran into financial difficuldes. "We

had our budget cut in half in

1990 and, in 1991, we were

facing the same situation as in

1987." Pinkowski said. "But we

cut out the frills. We cut the

prize-money down to almost

nothing." It showed as two

little-known Brazilians won in

1991 and 1992, neither break-

ing 2hr 14min on this re-

Pinkowski, race director since 1990, added: "All the elements had been there. It

had the prize-money, it had

the field, but it did not have

anybody looking to the future.

The marathon is about a lot of

people participating and a lot

nowned fast course.

the back chute."

There was no foundation. background to it."

the race was cancelled.

FOR all the millions of dollars that the London, Boston and New York marathons have spent on buying in elite athletes over the past 15 years, and despite the event's age-old history, one inescapable conclusion remains: the most famous person to have run a marathon is not Dorando Pietri, Jim Peters, Steve Jones or Carlos Lopes, but Oprah

It is part of the enduring appeal of the big-city marathon that, unlike in any other sport, recreational participants can share the competiove stage regularly with highly-paid professional runners, even if sometimes it can mean that the followers are of more interest than the leaders to the majority of spectators. Where's Jimmy Savile?

The story of the Chicago Marathon, which takes place tomorrow, runs like a theme from one of Oprah's shows. It has a story of suffering and conscience to tell and does not

Martin: defending title

mind everybody knowing.

Now the torment is over and

Chicago is, once again, the

international marathon run-

ner's kind of town. "This is a

statement year for us," Carey

of people contributing." And a lot of sponsors spending. Chicago now has 31. LaSalle, a Chicago bank, was so pleased with its first two years of title sponsorship in 1994 and 1995 that, seven months ago, it bought ownership of the race. From next to nothing three

years ago, more than \$2 million (about £1.3 million) has been poured into the race tomorrow. Pinkowski talks proudly of record Chicago figures: 16,000 runners, 3,500 volunteers, \$275,000 in prizemoney. The only safe records are the Chicago race records. Jones's 2hr 07min 13sec and Benoit's 2hr 21min 21sec. The field is the strongest for a decade but lacks a star

Pinkowski, the race director, Britain has a formidable presence. Eamonn Martin is Pinkowski talks openly defending the title he won last about how the event first run year; Paul Evans, after finishing second in New York last in 1977, lost its place as one of booming 1980s. They com-London in April, is seeking his prised London, New York, first big win: Gary Staines, after a personal best of 2hr Boston, Rotterdam and Chica-12min 54sec in Landon, is go. The others cast envious looking for close to 2hr 11min; Marian Sutton is a top-three contender in the women's

> Evans's appearance has delighted Pinkowski. I was moved Paul decided to come here instead of New York Jon November 3], especially after the run he had there last year." Pinkowski said. That is one heck of an endorsement." Who cares if Oprah is on television? How is Evans doing?



Nick Hill, of the Wooden Spoon Society. Taunton, strikes a classic pose as he chips to the 11th green at St Pierre in the Corporate Golf Challenge

Winners make light of mischievous wind

By MEL WEBA

THE weathermen got it wrong. They said that the clouds would tip large quantities of the wet stuff upon Wales yesterday, but whoever was up there waiting to turn the tap on held off long enough for the Wales and South West regional final of The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge to be completed in the dry.

Not that the 26 teams competing in the sixth leg of the 12event regional final series had it all their own way. A mischievous and occasionally powerful wind that swept like an avenging angel around the St Pierre course made judgment of shots off both tee and

fairway tricky in the extreme

It made little difference to the winning team, represent-ing the head office of Allied Dunbar Assurance at Swindon, who registered 89 stableford points to win by five points from Needham Enter-prises with another Allied Dunbar team third on 83.

The winners had an indifferent start, scoring only 11 points over the first three holes, but all four players -Graham Dickens, Paul Rignall, Paul Robathan and lain Bowden - had birdie chances on the 4th. Six points was the haul. They were off and before long they were running.

The 8th was their best hole on the front nine. Having

THE TIMES Mees Pierson GOLF CHALLENGE

lipped out with a 50yd chip on the fifth, Rignall went one step better, hitting a 30yd bumpand-run shot with a seven-iron that rolled onto the green and trundled into the hole for a net eagle and four points. But Bowden, without the benefit of a shot on the hole, made a 15ft putt for par and two points.

ward half worth 43 points. As midway scores went, it was a good enough haul, but the victory was confirmed on the back nine. They had to slog against a stiff head-wind on the 10th and 11th, then collected another six points at the 545-yard 12th. Dickens and Robathan hit

the main scorers on an out-

fine drives down-wind, which Dickens followed with a 3wood and a five-iroo from 30ft. Two putts later he was in for a net birdie and three points, while Robathan hit driver, two-wood and fiveiron, plus two putts from 20 feet for another net birdie.

The team thought they had lost their chance of victory when they gathered only three points on the 426-yard 16th, but any thoughts of possible defeat were banished when they collected their only sevenpoint score on the 18th. The finish deserved a bigger

audience, but when you are heading for a national final date in Spain in November. who cares about spectators?

Who cares about spectators?

SCORES: 88: Alsed Dunbar Assurance head office, 84: Needham Enterprises Ltd 83: Alled Dunbar Assurance 82: Drake Tooling and Abrasives Ltd 81: JBA (LN) Ltd. 80: British Steel ptc. 79: Camaud Membox Cosumes ptc. Nortal, The Vocatione Centre, 78: Fork Truck Mannienance: Havelet Trust Co (International) Ltd. 78: Stones Jones. 75: Avon and Willeams Health Service, 74. Julian Hodge Bank, CEF Torquay, Chemical Corporation (UN) Ltd. Monsamio ptc. 73: GNN ptc. Devonport Management Ltd. 72: Clencal Medical Investment Group. Allied Dunbar West Midland Region 70: Welsh Rarebits. GEC Plessey Semi-conductors 88: Wooden Spoon Society (Taumon) 88: Boyd and

The Pakistan batsmen failed to cope with the Zimbabwe spinners and only Saced and Salim passed the half-century mark. Both scored 52 and Aamir made 46.

Pakistan had a good start with an opening stand of 64 until Straog forced Aamir to mistime a drive that sent the ball into the safe hands of Andy Flower, the wicketkeeper. Flower then dislodged Saeed's bails when he came out of his crease to drive. Soon after completing his

50, including six fours and a towering six. Salim was bowled by Strang. Andrew Whittall, the off spinner, dis-missed Shadab Kabir, who was spectacularly caught by David Houghton on two, and ljaz Ahmed was trapped leg-before by Henry Olonga for

At the close Pakistan were in deep trouble, facing a deficit of 186 runs with only four wickets in hand.

ZIMBABWE: First Innings ZMBASWE: First twomp
O W Rower of sub b Sagleon
M H Delder low b Wasen
"A O'R Campose low b Shahud
OL Houghton nun out
A Rower low b Shahud
G J Whitaal o Shadab b Saglan
P A Strang not out
A R Whitaal low b Stratud
B C Strang b Saglan
H K Ckonga b Shahud
Finas In 9 lb 18 w L in 84

FALL OF WICKETS 1-93, 2-41, 3-119 4-141, 5-147, 6-142, 7-273, 8-274, 9-361 BOWLING: Wasm Alvam 28-9-68-1; Wagar Youns 22-3-90-0; Seqian Mushlaq 36.3-3-126-3; Shahid Nazv 22-3-54-5; Aamir Sohal 6-0-22-0.

PAKISTAN: First Incomes PANUS IAN: First trainings
Sacod Anwar at A Flower b P A Strang 51
Aunit Schail c A Flower b P A Strang 46
Sharkab Nubir c Houghton b A R Whittail 2
Jaz Ahmed Row b Olonga 52
Salam Malik b P A Strang 52
Acam Khan Malik b P A Strang 14
Musin Khan not out 33
Wassin Akram not out 55
Februs 15 1 h 2 m 1 h 2 m 55 Extras (b 1, lb 2, w 1, nb 3) Total (6 wids) Wagar Youres. Sagtain Mushtag and Shahid Nazir lo bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-64, 2-77, 3-91, 4-142, 5-178, 6-183.

Umpres: O Orchard (SA) and Khizar Hayal (Pakieteri)

BASEBALL: DIFFICULT FINAL HURDLE STANDS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND WORLD SERIES CROWN

Rignall and Bowden were

Yankees attempt to lay the ghosts of legend

FROM KEITH BLACKMORE

A NEW exhibition of oil paintings opened here this month. The Game We Left Behind: Baseball Portraits 1946-1960, a collection of loving recreations of famous baseball tableaux by Andy Jurinko, has been warmly received but is not exactly them into the Gatter Henoch in Greenwich Village. For once New Yorkers have

WORLER

Davies on

course for

no need to be reminded of the glories of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle. The New York Yankees, who once seemed to own the American League pennant, are back in the World Series - the annual meeting of the champions of the National and American Leagues - for the first time since 1981 and never mind that they will start the best-of-seven contest tonight as underdogs against the reigning champions, the Atlanta Braves.

The Yankees lost their first World Series in 1921, to the New York Giants, and their second the next year to the same opponents, but since then they have won 22 and lost nine. The 15 years since their last appearance, when they lost to the Los Angeles Dodgers, is easily the longest period between their World Series

the romance of the team has been somewhat eroded by the present owner, George Steinbrenner, a Cleveland shipbuilder who bought the team in 1973 and has been interfering with it ever since. But the Bronx Bombers of 1996 will be remembered for their balance and the calm management of Joe Torre, one of Steinbrenner's better appointments.

There are stars, of course: Darryl Strawberry rescued from drink, drugs, the taxman and the minor leagues to relaunch his slugging career; David Cone, who recovered

FOOTBALL

SCHEDULE

TODAY: Game one (New York) TOMORPOW: Game two [New York]
TUESDAY: Game three (Atlanta)
WEDNESDAY: Game tour [Atlanta]
THURSDAY: "Game for [Atlanta]
SATURDAY: "Game str [New York]. * If necessary

from an aneurysm in his pitching arm that inreatened more than his career earlier this season; the big-swinging Cecil Fielder, the highest-paid player in the game, who left the hapless Detroit Tigers to strike success immediately with the Yankees. But none of these is likely to find a place in the Hall of Fame.

If there is greatness to be found in this team it may lie with two youoger players, the hard-hitting outfielder. Bernie Williams, or, more likely, the shortstop, Derek Jeter, who last week was named the American League rookie of the year at the age of 22.

and his engaging manner have even the hard-bitten New York sports columnists drooling. "God must be wearing pinstripes again," wrote Steve Serby in the New York Post. He was kind enough to send us DiMaggio once, then Man-

Jeter's immense promise

The euphoria generated by having come this far is unlikely to last. On Thursday night as a rowdy crowd gathered to watch the final play-off game between Atlania and the St Louis Cardinals on the television screens at Mickey Mantie's bar across the street from Central Park, someone started the mock war chant that serves as the unofficial anthem of the Atlanta Braves. It was quickly shouted down. "No Yankees fan wants Atlanta," one party-pooper said.

His wish never seemed likely to come true once the Cardinals' young starter, Donovan Osborne, had disin-

We want to play St Louis."

game far from home. After just two thirds of the first inning, he was back in the dugout and the Braves were six runs ahead. They went on to complete a 15-0 victory giving Tom Glavine, their starting pitcher, one of the easiest wins of his career. Last Saturday night, after they had lost in St Louis to fall

tegrated under the pressure of pitching in such a crucial

3-1 behind in the best-of-seven National League Championship Series, the Braves seemed likely to be eliminated. Since then they have won three games and scored 32 runs while conceding only one and they arrive at Yankee Stadium playing the best baseball they have managed all season. The Yankees, by contrast,

have had five days off with only the gathering media storm and the growing threat of bad weather to occupy them. If they have not rested well, business may soon pick up at the Gallery Henoch.

BOWLING. Olonge 8-0-44-1, B C Strang 5-2-19-0; A R Whytell 14.2-3-46-1, P A Strang 17-2-58-4; G J Whytell 6-0-19-0

A Revolution in Golfing Breaks 66 There has long been a need to make

the wonderful and varied courses of Britain and Ireland more accessible. 99



eighth title LAURA DAVIES, of Great Britain, is on target for her eighth international golf vic-tory of the year after battling through strong winds to record a second round of 70 in the Italian Open, at II Picciola, in Sicily, yesterday. Davies, with a halfway aggregate of 138, eight under par, leads by two strokes from Martina Koch, of Germany. Davies, the world No l. made light work of difficult, windy conditions and had two birdies in her first four holes to reach the turn in 34. She dropped her only shot of the day at the short 10th. before recovering well with birdies at the long 11th and 18th holes TENNIS: Pete Sampras, of the United States, and Thomas Muster, from Austria, the world No! and No3, have failed to qualify from their group matches for the semi-finals of the Mariboro championship in Hong Koog. They were beaten yesterday by Byron Black, of Zimbabwe,

and Jonas Bjorkman, of Sweden, respectively. GOLF: Nick Faldo, of Great Return to : Crystal Prettier Britain, PO Box 35, Abingdon, Ozon, OX (4 45P Britain, missed the halfway cut in the Brigestone Open in Chiba, Japan, after a secood round of 73, one over par. Brian Watts, of the United

States, leads on 132. CRICKET: Middlesex have signed Greg Blewett, the Australia all-rounder, as their overseas player for the next

Bransky 34-13. Fours: Morley, Cutter, Bell, Thomson bt Leberthel, Sher, Miller, Bransky 22-21. CYCLING

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Second round, first leg: PC Ston (Switz) 1
Liverpool 2: Galantasaray (Tur) 4 Parts SantGerman (Fr) 2: Olympla: Lubriana (Stovena) 0 AEX Altrens (Gr) 2: Nienes (Fr) 1 AIX
Stockholm (Swit) 3: SK Brann Bergen (Nor)
2 PSV Enchoven (Hold) 1: Barraicans (So) 3
Red Star Belgrade (Yug) 1: Frorentins (N) 2
Sparsa Prague (Ct) 1: Barrica (Po) 1
Lokomorov Moscow (Huss) 0.
UEFA UNIVER-18 CHAMPIONS-NP: Chashliyling matches: Scottand 2: Walles 1:
Lithusaria 0 Holland 2
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First diviston: West Bromwich 0 Lacoster Cty 3. EQUESTRIANISM

PONTRIA CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: West Bromwich 0 Leacester City 3.
CENTRAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE:
Worderist City 1 Cheltenham 1
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Full Film Trophy.
Second round: Rothenham 5 Huddenfield
2. Hertfordshire League under-15:
Decomm 0 North Hertfordshire 4; Wistland 1
St Aberts 1 Under-14: Decomm 1 North
Hertfordshire 0; Waster 0 St Aberts 4.
SOUTH AMERICAN SUPERCUP: Ouster-firels, first leg: Sartos (B) 2 Ablets
Nacional (Coll 0; Veiez Sartield (Arg) 3
Cample (Par) 0
CONMERCU, CUP: Second round, first
leg: Ousran (Par) 0 Lanus (Arg) 2.
Behran 1 (in Muscut). AMERICAN FOOTBALL

BALLROOM DANCING LONDON: International Championships: Armsteur Modern: 1, C Hawkins and H Newberry (Eng): 2, A and 0 Stringler (Eng). 3, W Prio and A Buccarelit (fil.) Armsteur Latter. 1, R and 0 Multer (Gert, 2, M Ventruink and A Beads (SA): 3, M and N Cutter (Eng). Professional Modern: 1, M and K Hörn (Eng): 2, Le Bancoh and L Barry (Eng): 3, A Schewo and C Azzenton (fil.) Professional Latter: 1, 0 Burns and G Farweather (Soci): 2, B Watson and K Hardy (Eng): 3, H Gaba and B Schraber (Gert)

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL) Kareas City 34

BASEBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: Championship as-ries: Atlanta 15 St Louis 0 (Atlanta wins-best-of-seven sense 4-8) BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CUP: Group A: Ulker Soot (Tur) 84 Maccabi Tel Avrv (lor) 80, CSKA Moscow (Russ) 74 Ulmoges (Fr) 65, Stelan-or Melano (1) 90 Peninonis (Gr) 65, Group B: Olympiakos (Gr) 110 Estudennes (Sp) 78 Group C: Crostio Osiguranis (Cor) 53 Sme-il Olympia (Sloventa) 65: Bayer Leverkousen (Gel) 67 Panestroakos (Gr) 78, Group D: Pau-Orthey (Fr) 89 Virus Bolopna (tr) 63: Elas Pissen (Tur) 60 CDB Sevide (Sp) 86.

KAFAR HAMACCABIAH, Israel: Interna-tionet: England 3 Israel 1 (England names first: Singles: A Alcock lost to J Rabkin 7-25. Pairs: D Cutter and A EThomson bi H Moter and Rabkin 25-22. Yingles: 8 Mortey, J Bell, Alcock bt Y Lieberthaf, R Sher, C

TOUR OF PIEDMONT (200km) 1, R Verenque (Fr) 4/x 23min 50min; 2: A Tail (it); 3, M Giunetti (Switz) both at sume itme; 4, F Roscioli (it) at 8sec; 5, L Lebtano (Fr) 31.

LE LION O'ANGERS, France: Informational Honse Trials: Teum (after dressage): 1. Great Britain 138.4pts; 2. Italy 167: 3. Germany 169. Individual (after dressage): 1. P Furnal, Marshard Rubio (235) 42.4pts; 2. R Scherer, Sambride Britain 1635 42.4pts; 2. R Scherer, Sambride Britain 45.8; 3. K Griord, State Diplomati (169) 464. Other British positions: 7. R Powell, Firntstone 49.6; 9, I Stark The Moose 51 6; 25, J P Sheffield, Millo Itt 584, 28, J Brakewell, Rain Dancer 59 8; 39, S Lawrence, Tudor Court it 62; 47, V Elson, Derry Brig 65.2 GOLF

MEDOC GC, Bordeaux: Novotal Pentiar Open: Usedians effer two rounds (GB and the unless stated) 125: J Lorius and S Battomiay 63, 82, 129: P Waiten and R Barris 61, 68, 131: J Spence and M Mouland 64, 67, 132: R Borall and O Cooper 65, 67; R Davis and P O'Maley (Aux.) 65, 67. W Westner (SA) and M Macdands 64, 68, 133: P Lawie and S McAdister 65, 68: P Broadhust and R McFarlans 65, 68: P Broadhust and R McFarlans 65, 68: P Broadhust and R 65, 68; Sandelin (Swe) and F Farinaud (Fr) 65, 68: C Potter and M Pandaries (Fr) 65, 68: C Potter and M Pandaries (Fr) 65, 69: C Potter and C Mason 65, 69: C

McGnieg 70, 76; M Ademson (SA) 69, 77; N OUNTA DO PERU, Portugal: UAP grand finat: Leaders after two rounds (England unioss stated): 135; F Andersson (Swe) 67, 55; 198; M Hazalders 89, 67, 137; B Davic 62, 71; V Philips 67, 70; S Scathill (N2) 70, 67, 198; I Garbut 67, 71; R Jacqueth (Fr) 70, 69, 139; G Owen 70, 89; B Timing (Den) 67, 72; F Jacobson (Swe) 70, 69, 70; J40; C (Sb) 70, 55; N Varihotospen (Se) 74, 65; S Burnat 70, 69; F Breazza (N; 69, 70; 140; C Watts 70, 70; M Flondi (N; 71, 69; M Anglert (Swe) 69; 71; 141; O Westamark (Swe) 73, 69; J Augren (Swe) 70, 71; 142; F Lanson (Swe) 72, 70; 143; J Melior 73, 70; F Cba (Sp) 73, 70; P Gottfrideson (Sweden) 72, 71. BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS
First leg. Southampton
to Rio de Janeiro
Cou 12. Pause to 8.3Com ... 3, Concert Position as at 14.08GMT yesterday

MILES TO RIO DE JANEIRO: 1, Group 4 (1,314); 2, Toshiba Wave Warrior (1,378); 3, Concert (1,424); 4, Save The Children (1,465); 5, Commercial Union (1,497); 6, 3Com (1,527); 7, Metorola (1,539); 8, Heath Insured II (1,588), 9, Coean Rover (1,575); 10, Nuclear Electric (1,644); 11, Global Tearnwork (1,696); 12, Pause To Remember (1,630); 13, Time & Tide (1,922), 14, Countautida Int (1,929).

FOR THE RECORD Cevaer and A Lebouc (Fr) 60, 74, 195; J Cambon and N Natouguire (Fr) 64, 71, B Lane and M Roe 65, 70; S Lufte and J-M Cerizares (So) 64, 71; 196; F Nobio RUZ) and O Frost (SA) 64, 72; 197; B Farry and T Levet (Fr) 70, 67; O J Russell and R Drumenon 66, 71; O Rojahn (Nor) and N Festh (Swe) 65, 73; 190; P Cury and A Sherborne 65, 72; Marrier and M Jorson (Swe) 65, 73; 140; R Russell and O Robértson 65, 75; 142; S Torrance and M King 69, 73; E Giraud and T Planchtn (Fr) 69, 73; M McLean and N Briggs 65, 76; 143; A Fonsbrand (Swe) and J van de Veide (Fr) 71, 72

IL PICCIOLA, Sicily, Italian Open: Leeders after two rounds (GB and Ira unless stated); 138; L Device 68, 70; 140; M Koch (Ger) 72, 58; 143; G Stewart 72, 71; M Horin (Swe) 73; 70; F Pike (Aus) 89, 74, 144; L Tadiotto (Sel) 70, 74; R Cantedo (So) 71, 73; T Fischer (Ser) 68, 76; K Mourgue of Ngue (Fr) 69, 75; 145; S Ericason (Swe) 72, 77; K Speak 71, 74; 146; M de Boer (Hot) 71, 75; S Gustarson (Swe) 72, 74; M McKinlay 70, 76; M Ademson (Ska) 69, 77. OUINTA DO PERU, Portugei: UAP grand final interest after and state of the second of

HOCKEY PORT OF SPAIN, 7 midset: Women's World Cup: Prefiminary rotand: Pool A: Jameson 0 India 2; Trindad and 7 obego 0 Scotland 6. Pool B: France 3 Cuba 1; Japan 1 New Zeeland 4.

ICE HOCKEY

RUGBY LEAGUE International match New Zealand 17 Great British 12 New Zealand: Tries: Timu 2 Goals: Ridge 4 Dropped goal: Ridge Great British: Tries: Bets, Hurtle Goals: Goulding 2

RUGBY UNION SCHOOLS MATCHES: Pror Parl 34 Seechen CRII 17: Taunton 43 Wellington 7. SNOOKER

BOURNEMOUTH; Grand Pric First round (Eng unless stated): M King br J Ferguson 5-0: O King br N Bond 5-1; J Wattana (That) to G Dott (Scot) 5-4. J Birch bit A McManus (Scot) 5-2: F O'Brien thre) bit O Harold 5-4: T Jones (Eng) bit J White (Eng) 5-1; M Stevens

SPEEDWAY PREMIER LEAGUE: Ipswich 59 Swindon

KUALA LUMPUR: World team champion-ships: Semi-finals: Australia 3 New Zea-land 0 (Australia names first) M Martin by P Beams 9-0, 9-4, 9-0, 8 FrtiSerald by 5 Cook 9-5, 9-4, 9-0, C Owen bt J Wilson 9-5, 9-3 Frontend 3 Seeth Adv.

OSTRAVA, Czech Republic: Men's tournament: Second round: M Soch (Get) bt A Rachdescu (Gen' 7-6, 6-2; Pkorde (Gz) bt G Narnsewc (Ton) 7-6, 6-2; Quarter-finals: T Harman (GB) to W Fernera (SA) 6-4, 6-3; D Prnosi (Gen') bt T Martin (US) 7-6, 7-6; M Darwn (Ch) bt Schr 5-7, 6-4, 6-4
TOULOUSE: Men's tournament: Second round: M Woodforde (Aus) bt T Magnuson (Swe) 6-3, 7-6, 0 Staroyfchev (Bul) bt 7 Guardiols (Fn) 5-7, 7-5, 6-3; M Philippousos bt G Radout, (Fn) 7-6, 8-7, 6-4, 6-8
Karbecher (Gen) bt F Dewul (Ben) 6-4, 7-6, M Larsson (Swe) wo M Roset (Switz): C Proline (Fn) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 6-4, 6-3 M Rose (Shitz): C Proline (Fn) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 6-4, 6-4 M Larsson (Swe) wo M Roset (Switz): C Proline (Fn) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 6-4, 3-6, 7-6, 7-5, 19-2, 20 Junter-finals. Larsson bt Karbacher 6-1, 7-6, 7-7 Philippousses bt H Arazi (Mor) 6-4, 3-6, 7-6, 7-5, 19-2, 20 Junter-finals. Carbon (Ben) 6-4, 6-6, 6-7, 5, 7-7 Sanchez (Sp) bt S Sergasson (Arm) 6-2, 7-6, 7-5, 1 Frans (Arg) bt M Philippous (Un) 1-3 (ref) HONG (KoNG: Men's tournament: Second round: A Costa (Sp) bt K Perersa (Ven) 6-3, 4-6, 7-5, 7-5, 8-3 Silver group: 8 HONG (KoNG: Men's tournament: Sue group: R Reneberg (US) bt K Carlsen (Den) 6-2, 6-2, V Spadea (US) bt Rerebong 6-1, 0-6, 6-4 Red group: M Jovec (US) bt Y Ralethiov (Russ): 7-6, 7-8, 3 Silver group: 8 Busk (Zm) bt P Sampas (Swe) bt T Muster (Austral) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4
CARDNE: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: Smith (GB) bt E Wagner (Gen) 2-6, 3-7, 4, 8-4; O Barabanschtwou (Bele) bt C Torrens (So) 6-2, 5-2 ect W Probal (Sen) wo P Langrous (C2) ZURICH: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: Smith (GB) bt E Wagner (Gen) 2-6, 4-6, 2-8 Schultz-McCarthy 6-3, 7-6, M Hingle (Switz-McCarthy 6-3, 7-6, 8-1) Barah

Haile

grafi

RUGBY UNION

Cardiff aiming to shift balance of power in Europe

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

finished the defeat of Wasps

and then added the scalp of

Munster in midweek. These

are demanding schedules for

rugby players: it is all very well club owners making com-

parisons with football but

rugby is a heavy-impact sport and those clubs that have

options must pick and choose

What of Wasps, in the same

pool as Toulnuse and Cardiff?

One loss may be sustained,

two may not, so the trip to

Limerick to play Munster

takes on enhanced importance

for a XV in which Shane

Roiser returns on the wing.

Munster have revised the

front row that suffered in

Cardiff and bring David

Corkery, the international

flanker, into the fray because

Leicester, however, have ex-

ercised their flexibility. They

Bath might have done like-

Pontypridd, having enjoyed wins over Treviso and Edin-

burgh, know that the worst is

still to come in the shape of

Bath and Dax. They will

regret the absence of David Manley on the wing, but if Neil Jenkins is in good

kicking form then Bath's

propensity to concede penal-

ties could cost them dear.

Eddie Halvey is injured.

ONLY eight days into European competition and already two countries are struggling to retain an involvement in the Heineken Cup. The two Italian representatives, Milan and Treviso, have been beaten twice while, of the three Scottish entrants, the Borders must win at Leicester today to nourish hopes of a quarterfinal place.

To a degree however, that was predictable. It remains a weakness of the European concept that, in the end, it may be dominated by France and England, unless Cardiff can disrupt the script. They have. at least, given themselves a chance of doing so today. Despite rumuurs that key players would be spared the stern examination in Les Sept Deniers - home of the holders, Toulouse - Cardiff will go into the match with 14

It would have been 15 but Jonathan Davies damaged a rib carrilage against Munster on Wednesday and must rest. His place at stand-off half will go to Lee Jarvis, who made a spectacular European debut for Pontypridd against Leinster eight months ago.

These are exciting times for Toulouse, who beat Cardiff in the inaugural final in January. They have just agreed a sponsorship deal with Peugeot that will be worth more than £260,000 a year and they can field one of the most inventive midfields in the world, never mind Europe, in Christophe ede and Michel Marfaing.

Jerome Cazalbou, at scrum half, and Stephane Ougier, the extravagant, if somewhat error-prone, full back, are expected to pass fitness tests while Cardiff field the same

Argentina turn to the professionals

FROM FRANKIE DEGES IN BUENDS AIRES

IN WHAT could be a turningpoint for the strictly amateur Argentinian rugby union (UAR), three players who have been involved in professional rugby have been nominated in a squad of 36 from which will be drawn the party to tour England next month.

The three forwards include Federico Mendez, who gained notoriety during his first tour in 1990 by knocking out Paul Ackford during the interna-tional with England at Twickenham. Méndez, then a schoolboy prop making only his second appearance for Argentina, is now a hooker and has been playing for Natal: he remains undecided about his future and is considering offers to play overseas, some of them from English

Mauricio Reggiardo, also a front-row forward, plays for Castres in France, and German Llanes, the experienced

rested such key players as John Liley and Austin Healey against Leinster, when injury robbed them of Dean Richards and Rory Underwood. Richards will again be miss-ing when the Borders arrive at Welford Road and Leicester will also rest two of their front row and the experienced lock, has played for Milan. flanker, John Wells. "The executive council has not yet officially allowed them back into the fold," Luis Grawise, but for the fact that injury has wrecked their mid-

field. Not only are Phil de Glanville and Jeremy Guscott din, the UAR president and unavailable against Pontyyesterday. "But Mendez has been cleared to play for his pridd at Sardis Road, but so is province and the councillors Henry Paul, who has a want to see all three play. They shoulder injury. will be getting only the stan-Thus young Matt Perry dard tour allowance, which joins Adedayo Adebayo at will be around £40 a day." centre, with Jon Sleightholme eager to show his mettle on the ARGENTINA TOUR PARTY: Backs: wing. If Steve Ojomoh has not recovered from influenza, Eric Peters will play in the back

ARGENTINA TOUR PARTY: Backs: F Soler (Tale), O Giennantonio (Tate), S Mesón (SCI, J Légora (La Tebrada), F Carcia (Alumni), O Camardon (Alumni), J Orengo (Florano Athelic), E Simone (Liceo Navol), L Arbizu (Beigrano Athelic, epiani), O Cuesta Silva (SIC), E Jurado (Jockey), D Athenese (SIC), T Soleri (Hurbi), O Bantolucci (Roserio Athelic), J Cilley (SIC), G Quesedo (Harbi) N Fernéndez Migarde (Finch), C Berrest (Cordotra Athelic), L Lobraucc (Roserio Athelic), J Cilley (SIC), G Quesedo (Harbi) N Fernéndez (Martin), E Barco (Hochario), F Mindez (Natel), M Reggiande (Castres), M Lodestina (Curupay), F Sporteder (Curupay), G Lienes, P Fig.), J Simes (Tata), R Pérez (Duondes), R Travagini (CASI), R Martin (SIC), I Fernández (Joba (Lose Naval), C Viet (Newman), P Cemeditico (Regdas de Bella Vista), P Bouzai (Duendes)

Ridge, of New Zealand, is stopped in his tracks by Broadbent and O'Connor, of Great Britain, yesterday

Britain suffer for Morley's sin

Great Britain12

هكذا من الأصل

IT IS no consolation to Great Britain that they contributed immensely to a classic encounter of bruising intensity and high drama here yesterday. They had a winning start to the three-match series in New Zealand seemingly sewn up, only for it to unravel in nine minutes best forgotten after 71 largely memorable ones.

They were leading 12-4 when a refereeing decision almost certainly cost them the match. There were no complaints, although worse interference had gone on at the play-the-ball than Adrian Morley's holding-down of Sean Hoppe, but the patience, of Bill Harrigan, the referee, had run out and the 19-yearold forward was in no position

after starting his international debut as a substitute. Gaps in the Britain defence suddenly appeared at the place where Morley should

to argue about his dispatch to

the sin-bin only five minutes

advantage by scoring two conclusive tries in five minutes. Afterwards, colleagues rallied round Morley. Denis Betts, who succeeded

in slowing New Zealand in their tracks by testing the laws on interference to the limit. said: "Nobody is blaming him. It could have happened to any one of us in that situation at that time. The game plan was to slow them, but the referee wasn't having it this time. With 12 men, the rest was inevitable."

The defeat leaves Britain having to win next Friday at Palmerston North to keep the series alive; they should not get despondent. They exposed New Zealand as beatable and lost on what might be called a technical knockout.

Not that Phil Larder, the Britain coach, could hide his disappointment. "You can't win Test matches with 12 men in the last ten minutes," he said. "We won a match and threw it away. With 13 men, we'd have stopped them scoring the try, let alone two."

All the hard work had been achieved, outstandingly in cer-

doubted their ability as props at the highest level. Goulding kicked to perfection, Cunningham controlled affairs at dummy half and Powell and Radlinski were like rocks in the centre. Spruce was missed when he went off dazed, but always there was someone to

fill the gap. The stranglehold was such that the Kiwis rarely escaped Great Britain's clutches. They were vulnerable to Goulding's party piece, the cross-field kick over the heads of a compressed line. Like a quarter-back's precision throw, it found the hands of Hunte, who outjumped Barnett for the opening try.
Betts, 10 boos on his home

ground at the Ericsson Stadium here, scored the second, the product of good backing up and slick hands, including an exquisite pass out of the back door by Joynt that allowed Goulding and Radlinski to send Betts twisting out of Pongia's tackle.

After an exchange of penalties in the third quarter by Goulding and Ridge, Britain looked up in the task of tain cases. O'Connor and holding their lead. The crowd

nailed Ridge at the corner, Timu was dragged back by Betts and so the tension built. New Zealand failed to get attacking leverage at the rucks, where Britain made life so difficult, until Morley's

fateful challenge on Hoppe, Within 60 seconds Timu had cut inside Goulding for his first try. Ridge's conver-sion made it 12-10. The ball was brilliantly kept alive for Timu's second and winning try. Ridge converted from the touchline and added a dropped goal. Britain could not believe it. Neither could a relieved New Zealand.

relieved New Zealand.

SCORERS Mew Zealand; Tries; Tmu (2)
Goels: Ridge (4). Dropped goal; Ridge
Great Britain: Tries; Hunte, Betts, Goals:
Coulding (2).

New Zealand): M Ridge (Auckland); S
Hoppe (Auckland), R Blackmore (Auckland); S
Hoppe (Auckland), R Blackmore (Auckland); G
Hopee (Auckland), R Blackmore (Auckland); G
Hopee (Auckland), R
Hopee (Auckland), G
Hopee (Auckland), R
Hop (Canberra), L Swinn (Auckjand)
GREAT BRITAIN: S Spruce (Bactlord) A
Hunte (St. Helens), K Rudlinski (Mgan), D
Powell (Keighley), A Sulkaan (St Helens),
Harris (Warmington) R Goulding (St Hel
ens); P Broadbert (Sheffield) K Cunning
han (Sh Helens), T O Connor (Warmin
betts (Auckland) P Scutthorpe (Warmin
Joynt (St Helens), K Senior (Sheffield), A
Morley (Leads), T Smith (Castiellord)
Morley (Leads), T Smith (Castiellord)

SAILING

Group 4's lead looks secure on run to Rio

BY EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT

THE BT Global Challenge fleet is crossing the Equator. with the customary appearances before the Court of King Neptune for those doing so for the first time.

Mike Golding, the skipper of Group 4, has dominated the opening leg and retains the lead as he continues to ply the most westerly course in his anempt to be first to Rio de Janeiro, an objective he should achieve towards the end of

Yesterday, after logging the second highest 24-hour run of 212 miles, he was approaching the easternmost point of Brazil at around nine knots and with

Sixty-six miles behind but farther out to sea was Toshiba Wave Worrior, skippered by Simon Walker, with Concert. under Chris Tibbs, 45 miles back and even farther to the east. Tibbs and Walker fared almost as well as Golding yesterday and will be hoping for stronger winds than Group 4 on the run to Rio.

The main pack is rightly bunched and led by the muchimproved Save The Children, under Andy Hindley, followed by Commercial Union, 3Com, Motorolo, Heath Insured II and Ocean Rover.

and Ocean Korer.
Boris Webber's Courtaulds
was the backmarker, slightly more than 600 miles behind Group 4. On Time & Tide, seven miles ahead of Courtaulds, the mood was positive, despite the fact that three crew are to leave the boat in Rio. One is chronically seasick, another has failed to raise his full fee and a third will rejoin the boat after the Southern Ocean.

James Harfield, skipper of the first disabled crew to race round the world, yesterday answered speculation that Time & Tide might withdraw after Rio. "It's been an excellent trip so far," he said. "Why would we want to consider cutting it short?" Ben Ainslie, the Olympic

silver-medal winner, takes on 60 of the world's leading Laser sailors in the Tourist Regatta of Kuwait, starting today.

Challenge positions, page 48

Harlequins acquire art of graft to sustain sequence

By DAVID HANDS

THE longer it goes on, the harder it is to sustain, but Harlequins are beginning to take pride in their unbeaten record. Six out of six in the Courage Clubs Championship, two out of two in the Anglo-Welsh Cup and a heartstopping victory over Ulster on Wednesday to begin their Heineken Cup campaign. Can

Hitherto the answer would have been no, but while the moneyed era has undoubtedly made a difference to their fortunes, there is also now something of the traditional English bulldog about them. not a characteristic for which they are noted.

When they have needed to graft — as they did at Ravenhill — they have done so and that is the quality that has brought so much pleasure to Dick Best, their director of

"We could quite easily have gone down the tubes against Ulster." Best said. "We were hosed out of the lineout, up against a very physical, conipentive side who put us under a lot of pressure. By the end of the game, we were getting very little ball but we were very pleased with our defensive qualines. Not many tries have been scored against us and the players are beginning to take pride from that.

*Previous Harlequins sides might have lost a game like

that. We wouldn't have possessed the firepower to withstand such an onslaught. Ulster kept coming at us. they didn't fade in the last quarter, so tu win has done us a power

Wednesday's was the first competitive game in which Harlequins kept their line intact but, in so many of their high-scoring frolics in Eng-land, the difficulty has been fur players to maintain concentration when they know the opposition will not win. In their two Anglo-Welsh matches, against Swansea and Car-diff, they have conceded seven tries with what is, effectively, their second string, while 14 tries have been scored against them in their six domestic league matches.

Best is keeping a cautious eye on the future, though. "We



Best: cautious

are coming into the ultimate month of rugby." he said. "Up to last year, we had until January before we felt we needed to field our best side, in the Pilkington Cup. Now we must do it after eight games and we are still not sure what our best team is because several class players haven't had the chances they deserve.

"But in four weeks we must play eight hard games — in one period of six days we play Brive, Sale and the Caledonian Reds. If we come through that unscathed, we can pat ourselves on the back and feel we are not a bad side."

That process continues against Neath at the Stoop Memorial Ground today, with the added spice that, if Neath have not opened the season in quite the consistent vein expected of the Welsh champions, it is because Harlequins removed the nucleus of their pack when they put the Liewellyn brothers, Gareth and Glyn, under contract. The two locks were fundamental to Neath's success last season and they have not been adequately replaced.

"I'm expecting a performance full of pace and passion." Gareth Llewellyn. Wales's most-capped furward. said. "I've seen some of the Neath boys at squad training, I've spoken a few times with their coaches and they will be trying to pin one over us."

England take on

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN PETALING JAYAL MALAYSIA

pionship here with a compre-hensive 3-0 win over South Africa.

They will meet Australia, the top seeds, in the final, the With both deposed world

open champions. Michelle Martin and her powerful replacement, Sarah FitzGerald, in the squad, as well as two world top-six players in Liz Irving and Carol Owens, a

Deprived of their middle order through injuries to Sue Wright and Jane Martin before the championship started. England now seem to have lost the services of Suzanne Horner, their world No 3 and national champion, who is suffering from back

man led the reserves, Linda Charman and Fiona Geaves, to victory over a South African side with obvious ambirions for the third place playoff today.

Results, page 48

SQUASH

champions

ENGLAND yesterday reached the final of the Perrier women's world squash cham-

Australians having secured a similarly straightforward win over New Zealand yesterday.

passionate defence of the title for a second time is probable from the Australians.

problems. Yesterday Cassandra Jack-

n soccer SEE TOMORROW'S One FA Cup. Two fingers up to the big boys. Bree points off the lead. Four thousand fan e divisions in 10 years. Six wine on the fro

BALLROOM DANCING: BURNS AND FAIRWEATHER END CAREER IN FINE STYLE

Latin experts leave the rest standing

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

THE best-known Latin dancers in Britain. Donnie Burns and Gaynor Fairweather, bade an emotional farewell to competitive dancing in the early hours ol yesierday morning, after defeating 105 couples from around the world to win their tenth Elsa Wells International hampionship ritle at the Albert Hall. arns and Fairweather, 13 nines world champions and each appointed MBE. received three standing uvations for their charismanic performance over the five Latin dances of cha-cha-cha, samba, rumba. paso doble and jive.

Burns and his partner set the seal on a record unlikely to be equalled in the foreseeable future but, now that their reign has ended, the Latin field is open once more. All five runners-up from yesterday will begin training in the hope of winning the world championship next year, with Bryan Watson and Karen

Hardy, of England, the favourites. In the amateur modern championship, the failure of Italy's leading couple to appear meant that the main contest took place between Christopher Hawkins and Hazel Newberry, the British champions, and the British No 2 pair, Alan and Donna Shingler. The Shinglers had been beaten narrowly by the effervescent Hawkins and Newberry at the Midland championships two weeks ago and that outcome was repeated yesterday.

In the professional modern, Marcus and Karen Hilton, of Rochdale, took their sixth championship. Placed sixth were Timothy Howson and Joanne Bolton, new entries to the professional rankings, who won the amateur title last year. Not all couples make a successful transition to professional status but the success of Howson and Bolton in reaching their first international final was considered a breakthrough and they are being tipped as future champions.

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ARSENAL After only his second game in charge, this time against Coventry. Arsène Wenger, the manager, could find Arsenal top of the tree. But he knows there is work to be done on an ageing team, which cannot always rely on the inspired opportunism of lan Wright to win the points. Now Wenger ear's How Treston Fig. T natited Fig. T noking Fig. 1 roking Fig. 1 roking Fig. 1 roking Fig. 1 roker Fig. 1 is there, Patrick Vieira, the France Under-21 cap, should continue to improve after an uneasy start. There is still a lack of craft and surprise in midfield, but the return of Adams has steadied the defence.

DERBY COUNTY

Not content with having a considerable say at the Base-ball Ground. Igor Stirnac is now trying to select the Nottingham Forest team as well. Stimac has urged Frank Clark, the Forest manager, to pick his fellow Croatian, Nikola Jerkan, when the sides meet this afternoon. Com-radeship or kidology? Jerkan has had a difficult time since arriving in England, but Stimac said: "He is much better than Forest think. He must play if they are to perform well in defence." So there.

THE TIMES GUIDE TO THE PREMIERSHIP THIS WEEKEND

ASTON VILLA

Since Villa won three of their first four Premiership matches, and occupied second place in the table, little has gone right for Brian Little — seven games without a win, Uefa Cup ignominy, the acrimonious exit of Paul McGrath and the ill-timed Basil Fawlty impression by Mark Bosnich. At least McGrath's departure, to Derby, was laced with a touch of humour. "Brian told me I would be rested at certain times during the season," he said, "but I didn't think I'd be rested before all the games started." RK

EVERTON

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

relegation battle, after seven games without

a win. At least David Pleat, the manager,

can call upon Benito Carbone, who finally

received international clearance just an

hour before yesterday's deadline for this match. He will replace Guy Whittingham, and Des Walker returns in defence, but

David Hirst keeps his place, even though he

SUNDERLAND

trip to Southampton today. Further for-

ward. Niall Quinn is again sidelined by

injury. Jerome Gnako, the former France international, is available after a dispute with Sochaux, the French second-division

side. The former AS Monaco player, now

28. has, according to Reid: "Two good feet." The only problem is he has not trained for

three months.

Martin Scott has been one of

Sunderland's unsung heroes this season and the left back

returns from suspension for the

has yet to score this season.

A few short weeks ago, Wed-

nesday were table-toppers. Now the game against Black-

burn has all the look of a

Everton have not lost to Liverpool since Joe Royle took over, but they go to Anfield tomorrow looking vulnerable. Dave Watson is back in the squad to help shore up the defence, but Everton's success against their more sophisticated neigh-bours has been built on their midfield players getting in among the Liverpool midfield and putting themselves about. With Ebbrell and Parkinson both doubtful. the "dogs of war" may be staying in their kennels.

BLACKBURN ROVERS

Ray Harford has subjected his side to the worst kind of torture. He made them sit through a 90-minute video of the Arsenal match - with the sound

turned down. The much-hyped return of Graeme Le Saux to the first team has been put on ice again, for two weeks at least. Colin Hendry has set himself a similar target after a groin operation, but Kevin Gallacher and Ian Pearce are both ready for yet another return, followed no doubt by yet another injury. DM

LEEDS UNITED

George Graham, the manag-er, is taking comfort from seeing his side keeping a clean sheet or two, but last week. like several at Elland Road recently. revolved around the strikers. Graham suggested that Leeds may be rethinking their recall of Tomas Brolin in the light of Sampdoria's reported interest. Meanwhile, Brian Deane returned to training with the first team and Mark Hateley plays the last game of his spell on loan Queens Park Rangers.

HOW THEY STAND

CHELSEA

Wimbledon always win at Chelsea: will they do so again? Last week, Gianluca Vialli was seen to walk away in the middle of Gullit's tactical talk at the training ground, did not start the game at Leicester, came on for the second half. scored one, made two and turned the tide. Practical psychology on the part of Gullit, or just good fortune? Chelsea will rely on Frank Leboeuf to counter Wimbledon's formidable aerial attack at set-pieces and the buge throw-ins of Vinnie Jones. BG

LEICESTER CITY

Despite an encouraging start, founded on sound organis-aoon, Martin O'Neill, the manager, wonders how his side will cope when they lose key players through injury. He may find out at West Ham this afternoon, because two of his three central midfield players, Neil Lennon and Muzzy Izzet, face fitness tests. Lennon, conspicuous with his ginger hair, has won much acclaim, but many of his passes are made for him by the intelligent running of Izzet and Scott Taylor.

COVENTRY CITY

Amid all the doom and gloom at Highlield Road, the form of John Salako has shone like a beacon. So much so that many of his team-mates reckon he is not far away

from adding to his five England caps. Salako, born in Nigeria, is also proving a dab hand at media relations. He made his debut on Goals Extra on Central Television recently and, apparently, disproved the general theory that most professional footballers are only able to let their boots do the talking.

LIVERPOOL

The team returned from Swit----zerland victorious, but tired thanks to the press. Two tabloid reporters managed to wake the players at 3am on Thursday when two "friends" they had met in a nightclub started blaring their car horn outside the team hotel. Worse, the Liverpool flight home was delayed because the driver of the press coach got lost on his way to the airport. No other worries for the derby match tomorrow: Fowler should recover to leave the team unchanged.

•

MANCHESTER UNITED There will be a surprise figure

on the Manchester United coach travelling to Newcastle today for tumorrow's match -Roy Keane. "He won't be involved in the game," Alex Ferguson said, "but I want him to come with us so I can see his progress in training." Keane is expected to return against Swindon on Wednesday, when Scholes and McClair will also be involved. So might Philip Neville, who may be on the bench tomorrow, but if Ryan Giggs is fit he will step straight in at St James' Park. PB MIDDLESBROUGH

Bryan Robson, the manager, admits to having been per-plexed by Steve Vickers's sudden slump in form until he learnt that the central defender had been suffering from shingles but keeping the illness a secret. Now germ-free, Vickers is fit to face Tottenham today. Having seen his side concede eight goals in three games. Robson hopes for an improvement against a side that highlighted Middlesbrough's lack of wit when winning I-O in the equivalent fixture last season.

2 Arsenal

Liverpool

4 Manchester Utd...

8 Middlesbrough

9 Aston Villa. 10 Everton.

11 Tottenham

12 Leicester.

16 West Ham..... 17 Nollm Forest.

18 Southampton...

14 Derby

15 Leeds

Shelfield Wed

NEWCASTLE UNITED

Last five

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It is nearly two seasons since Newcastle last experienced a no-score draw, and it seems that that trend will continue. Kevin Keegan, the manager, admitted this week that his side "don't have the first idea what a defensive strategy is". Against Ferencearos, it seemed they didn't even know what a defence was, and Keegan will take steps to put that right. Pavel Smicek could be replaced by Shaka Hislop, and either John Beresford or Philippe Albert will make way for Robbie Ellion.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Flies with an ear for gossip will settle on the walls of the shareholders' room this afternoon as the 209 men and women who each own a EI share discuss. informally, plans to sell off the club. One of them. John Ellwood, has promised to begin a campaign to scupper any deal. Infighting is nothing new at the City Ground, though Frank Clark, the manager, insists the uncertainty is no excuse for a run of eight games without a win. Perhaps the BBC cameras will inspire his side today.

SOUTHAMPTON

The days when Southampton fielded nothing more exotic than the odd Channel Islander are long gone. After Lunde-kvam. Ostenstad, Berkowitz and Slater. Graeme Souness's fifth overseas signing. Ulrich van Gobbel, the Holland international defender. from his former club, Galatasaray, takes his spending so far to more than £4 million. "He was the first name that came into my head when I took, this job." Souness said. "He solved a lot of

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

Most Tottenham supporters are not remotely concerned whether Alan Sugar has defeated Terry Venables, or Venables has beaten Sugar, in their latest legal joust. The saga is almost as boring as will or won't Gerry Francis sign a big-name player? Francis's success rate is also easier to comprehend - nil - but he still remains sweet on Trevor Sinclair, of Queens Park Rangers. "If Trevor's transfer request is granted, we would be interested." Francis

problems at Galatasaray."

WEST HAM UNITED

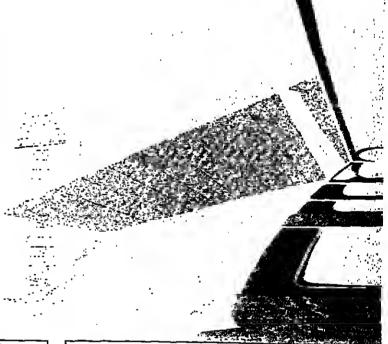
They have won plenty of friends but, with four points out of 18, West Ham need to win a few matches, and with three home games in seven days, starting with Leicester City today, now is the time. "It is a big week for us," Harry Redknapp admitted. "We have been unlucky, but we cannot keep saying that. We need some victories." And some better news from the treatment room. Richard Hall, yet to make his debut, now faces an operation on his foot, and Futre is still out.

After disagreements among

Irish journalists this week about a possible move to Dublin, Wimbledon contemplate the shorter journey to Stamford Bridge, where a 2-1 victory last season ended a run of 14 games without a win - how times change. Brian McAllister, the defender, was relieved when X-rays revealed no break in the leg he injured last week, but will probably be missing today. Vinnie Jones, the new role model for the young pros, will hope to complete 90 minutes this time. NS

WIMBLEDON

Reports: Brian Glanville, Peter Bell, Russell Kempson, Kelth Pike, David Maddock. Sta son, Richard Hobson, Louise Taylor, Nick Szczepenik, Statistics: Julian Desborough



ARSENAL v COVENTRY CITY

10-YEAR RECORD: 0-0, 1-1, 2-0, 2-0, 6-1, 1-2, 3-0, 0-3, 2-1, 1-1

HOW THEY LINE UP ARSENAL (from): D Searman, J Lukic, L Dixon, N Winterburn, M Keown, A Adams, S Bould, A Linighan, R Parlour, D Platt, P Vierra, P Merson, I Wright, J Hartson, G Helder, P Shaw, P Read, D Bergkamp.

COVENTRY CITY (from): S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, L Daish, P Williams, R Shaw, M Hall, P Teifer, K Richardson, G McAllister, J Selako, D Dublin, N Whelan, E Jess, P Ndlovu, G Strachan, M Isaias, M O'Neil, J Filan

NOTTINGHAM FOREST V **DERBY COUNTY** 10-YEAR RECORD: -. 2-1, 1-1, 2-1, 1-0, -., --, --, --, --,

HOW THEY LINE UP NOTTINGHAM FOREST (from): M Crossley, D Lyttle, S Pearce, C Cooper, S Blatherwick, C Allen, C Bart-Williams, S Gernmill, I Woan, D Saunders, J Lee, A I Haaland, B Roy, S Chettle, D Phillips, S Guinan,

DERBY COUNTY (from): R Hoult, G Rowett, C Powell, D Powell, 1 Stirmac, P McGrath, J Laursen, C Dailly, D Yates, A Ward, A Asanovic P Simpson, S Rynn, M Carbon, L Carsley, R Willems, J Quy.

LEADING SCORERS

8: I Wright (Arsenal). 7: F Ravanelli (Middl at I wingin (Avsena).
7: F Rawarelli (Middlesbrough).
6: L Ferdinand (Newcastle), A Shearer (Newcastle).
5: M Le Tissler (Southampton), E Eloku (Wimbledon).
4: F Leboeuf (Chelses), G Vialli (Chelses), P Berger (Liverpool),
E Cantona (Manchester United), O G Solskigaer (Manchester United),
Jurinho (Middlesbrough), K Campbell (Nottingham Forest), A Booth
(Sheffield Wednesday), R Earle (Wimbledon).
3: J Hartson (Arsenal), D Yorke (Aston Villa), E Heskey (Leicester).
S McManaman (Liverpool), D Beckham (Manchester United),
R Humphreys (Sheffield Wednesday), C Armstrong (Tottenham),
M Hughes (West Ham), M Gayle (Wimbledon).
The official Internet site of the FA Carling Premiership The official Internet site of the FA Carling Premiership is at http://www.fa-carting.com/



ASTON VILLA V LEEDS UNITED TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: --, 1-2, --, --, 0-0, 1-4, 1-1, 1-0, 0-0, 3-0

HOW THEY LINE UP ASTON VILLA (from): M Bosnich, M Oakes, G Southgate, U Ehiogu, R Scimeca, S Staunton, C Tiler, I Taylor, A Townsend, S Curcic, D Yorke, J Josephin, T Johnson, S Milosevic, G Famelly.

LEEDS UNITED (from). N Martyn, G Kelly, C Petmer, D Wetherail, R Jobson, L Radebe, I Harte, R Wallace, A Couzans, M Ford, L Sharpe, I Rush, M Heteley, A Dorigo, M Jackson, P Beesley, J Blurt, A Gray, M Rendered



HOW THEY LINE UP SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (from): K Pressman, P Atherton, I Noten, M Pembridge, D Stefenovic, D Walker, G-Writtingham, R Blinker, R Humphreys, A Booth, G Hyde, S Cakes, S Nicol, O Trustfull, D Hirst, J Newsome, B Carbone, M Clarke.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (from): T Flowers, J Kenna, N Marker, H Berg, G Croft, T Shewood, L Bohmen, J Wilcox, G Donis, C Sutton, J Beattle, N Gudmundsson, S Ripley, M Broomes, S Given, G Filtoroft, D Duff, K Getfacter, I Pearce.



HOW THEY LINE UP LIVERPOOL (from): D James, D Matter, J Scales, S I Bjornebye, J McAteer, M Wright, P Babb, J Barnes, S McManamen, M Thomas, J Redkrapp, S Collymore, R Fowler, M Kennedy, A Warner, L Jones, P Berger. EVERTON (from): N Southall, P Gerrard, E Barrett, A Hinchchilfe, D Unsworth, D Watson, C Short, A Kanchelskis, J Ebbrell, A Grant, J Parkinson, D Ferguson, G Speed, G Stuart, M Branch, P Rideout, A Limpar, M Jackson, V Samways, M Hottiger



SOUTHAMPTON V SUNDERLAND

TICKETS: Sold out

CHELSEA V

WIMBLEDON

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: 0-4, 1-1, --, 2-5, 0-0, 2-2, 4-2, 2-0, 1-1, 1-2

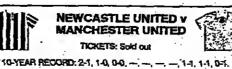
HOW THEY LINE UP

CHELSEA (from): K Hitchcock, F Grodes, D Petrescu, R Di Matteo, F Leboeuf, J Spencer, G Vialli, M Hughes, E Johnsen, D Wise, S Clarke, A Myers, D Lee, S Minto, J Morris, E Newton.

WIMBLEDON (from): N Suithvan, K Cunningham, 8 Thatcher, V Jones, C Perry, D Blackwell, R Earle, D Leonherdsen, A Kimble, M Gayle, E Ekoku, D Holdsworth, N Ardley, M Harford, D Jupp, A Clarke, J Goodman, J Euell, P Fear, P Heald.

10-YEAR RECORD: --, --, --, 3-1, --, --, --, --, --, HOW THEY LINE UP SOUTHAMPTON (from): N Moss, R Dryden, U van Gobbel, C Lundekvam, E Berkowic, J Magilton, R Stater, M Le Tissier, J Dodd, E Ostensted, G Watson, N Shipperley, M Oakley, S Charlton, N Maddison, N Hearrey, G Potter, F Benall

SUNDERLAND (from): A Coton, G Half, M Scott, R Ord, A Mehville, S Agnew, K Balf, P Bracewall, A Rae, M Gray, P Stewart, C Russell, D Kelly, L Howey, M Bridges, D Kubicki, L Perez.



HOW THEY LINE UP NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): P Smicek, W Barton, J Berestord, D Bátty, D Peacock, R Lee, P Beardsley, A Shearer, L Ferdinand, F Asprille, R Effort, D Ginola, S Histop, K Gillespie, S Watson, L Clark, O Abrud B Visines.

MANCHESTER UNITED (from): P Schmeichel, G Neville, D Inviri, D May, G Palister, P Neville, D Beckham, N Butt, R Glogs, E Cantons, R Glogs, P Schöles, K Poborsky, J Cruyff, R Johnson, B McClair, R van-der Gouw, O G Solskjøer



MIDDLESBROUGH v TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

TICKETS: Sold out 10-YEAR RECORD: --, --, 2-2, --, --, 3-0, --, --, 0-1 HOW THEY LINE UP

MIDDLESBROUGH (from): A Miller, N. Cox, G. Flemung, Branco, S. Vickers, N. Pearson, P. Whelan, D. Whyte, N. Barmby, C. Hignett, Emerson, F. Revanelli, R. Mustoe, Junanho, M. Beck, P. Stamp

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (from): I Walker. E Baardsen, S Carr. D Austin, J Edinburgh, S Carripbell, C Caliderwood, S Nethercott. C Wilson, R Fox, D Howells, A Nielsen, J Dozzell, E Sheringham, C Armstrong, R Allen, N Fenn.



WEST HAM UNITED V LEICESTER CITY TICKETS: Seats available

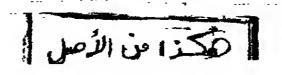
10-YEAR RECORD; 4-1, --, --, 3-1, 1-0, --, --, --, 0-1, --, HOW THEY LINE UP WEST HAM UNITED (trom): L. Miklasko, M. Bowen, J. Dicks. T. Breacker, M. Rieper, S. Bilic, J. Moncur, I. Bishop, M. Hughes, F. Lampard, K. Rowland, H. Porfirio, I. Dowle, F. Raducioru, I. Durmtrescu, S. Lawarides, P. Shilton.

LEICESTER CITY (from): K Kelter, S Grayson, M Whittow, J Watts, S Prior, S Watsh, N Lennon, S Taylor, I Marshall, M Izzel, E Heskey, S Claridge, G Parker, N Lewis, J Lawrence, C Hill, S Campbell, S Wilson, K Poole.

WHEN TO WATCH ON TELEVISION

10,45pm BBC 1 Match of the Day (highlights) Iomorov 7280 AND CARLOS AND CONTRACTOR OF THE CO 11.00am Sky Sports Goals on Sunday

3pm Sky Sports Ford Escort Super Sur Newcastle United v Manchester United ool v Everton (highlights)



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to crack down on the bad boys

hen Salurday comes, the managers earn their corn by making judgments on the fitness of football players. Usually, it is a question of hamstrings, of dodgy knees, swollen ankles. Today is different: at Asion Villa, Arsenal and Rangers, the managers must try to look into the heads of three errant players and make their team selections accordingly.

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The probability is that Mark Bosnich will play in goal for Aston Villa against Leeds United, that Paul Merson will keep his place, even with the return of Dennis Bergkamp for Arsenal against Coventry City, and that Paul Gascoigne will take the field against Aberdeen.

Expediency, in the pursuit of three points, almost always comes before concern about public perceptions of morality. The focus has been on our national sport, on the world's game, in the past week.

Bosnich gave that thought-less Basil Fawlty Nazi salute to a Tottenham Hotspur crowd known to have a large Jewish contingent. Silly boy.

Merson came to the end of the marriage that helped to sustain him through his rehabilitation from drugs, drink and gambling. Sad boy.

Gascoigne, sent off in Amsterdam for manic behaviour on the field, and exposed for the bedroom, cost his team any hope of progressing in the European Cup. Wretched

Abroad, Diego Maradonna was pictured in tears because his agent was jailed for reported mafia crimes and drug trafficking. And Paul Ince was sent off in Italy for pushing an opponent who admitted he had racially abused the Englishman.

Of them all, only Ince is automatically suspended from the next game, although he has put in an appeal which, if won, would allow him to compete against Juventus in Turin tomorrow.

When are we going to stop excusing footballers on account of their wealth being so burdensome, their lives so pressured, their temptations to appreciate, but waning in-

ROB HUGHES



Weekend View

inhuman? Should they be absolved from the normal duties, the normal obligations in society?

At the end of a week in which Manchester United and Liverpool recouped some re-spect for British football abroad, these are sad questions, yet they dominate, Gascoigne in turmoil is no

stranger to us. He was even sent off and investigated by police, in this corresponding match against Aberdeen last November when he butted John Inglis in the stomach, \ will not pretend that I have inside knowledge of what happened between Paul and Sheryl Gascoigne in their hotel room last weekend. The Doily Mirror pictures of her injuries are graphic and disturbing, but also unworthy, as is some of the reportage. seeking to mock Glenn and his moral

The fact is that Hoddle's predecessor, Terry Venables, condoned habits that Hoddle despises. Venables also built into his England team a dependency on Gascoigne that, the coach now admits, was "a gut feeling". Hoddle, as he assesses this week's misbehaviour, specifically the manner in which Gascolgne kicked out at a fallen opponent, must decide whether he can trust or afford Gascoigne in such a

tration of the player against Poland this month, and moreover Hoddle has unearthed David Beckham as a young

and reliable playmaker for his national team. The bud behaviour of footballers has dogged England through good and bad times. It does not seem as if this unfortunate image deters the large firms that contribute more and more of their advertising and sponsorship budgets to the game. In which case, should anyone be surprised that those who pick II individuals for a task, show similar disinterest in the audience at home, even if so many of them are impressionable

oungsters? Neither England, nor the elubs, can be expected to perform as rehabilitation centres for miscreants. "A football coach is not a priest." João Saldanha, who built the wonderful Brazil team of 1970. said,

Saldanha's creed was that the biggest crime was getting caught. Bosnich was caught in his infantile gesture at White Hart Lane last week, yet some have sought to pass off his behaviour as "good hu-moured" and to vilify the "overreaction" of Jewish Tottenham supporters.

How crude the scribes themselves can appear. And how ignorant Bosnich makes hunself out to be. Someone, somewhere, must take a lead with the highest paid young professionals in the country. They, after all, have more idle time on their hands than anyone in the nine-to-five workforce. Their bodies have to be rested, vet they fill the vacant hours without attempt to put into perspective the world which pays them so handsomely.

They travel more than almost anyone else and travel is supposed to broaden the mind, not to extend the ignorance and isolation of it. If the players are irresponsible and the managers fail to act on the public behalf, then, once again, the forces of common law will enter football's supposedly sacrosanct disciplin-

Time for football Honours graduate from Clough academy

THE FACE OF **FOOTBALL**

مكذا من الأصل

Richard Hobson

looks at the impact of Martin O'Neill

on Leicester City

artin O'Neill hides his head in his hands and cringes at the sight of a newspaper cutting dated January 1974. It rekindles memories of his early vears in England, a time when, in his own estimation, he could do no wrong. A time when, in Nottingham, he was the archetypal Angry Young Man.

Omined from the Forest side as a disciplinary measure by Allan Brown, the manager. whose claim to fame is that he preceded Brian Clough at the City Ground, his behaviour drew a stinging rebuke in the editorial column of the local paper. The sports editor, now deceased, reminded O'Neill that Forest had plucked him from obscurity and concluded: "Think over your next step well.

O'Neill did just that and replied in five, withering paragraphs. "I was 'plucked' from law studies at Queen's University, Belfast, not from the queue at the Labour Exchange," he wrote, undermining the original article with an eye for detail that would have made him a formidable opponent in court. He bas mellowed since.

Playing under Clough tended to have that effect on dissidents, those who staved at any rate. There is, however, a purpose to the tale and it is one that his adversaries in the FA Carling Premiership are beginning to realise. Underestimate Martin O'Neill at your peril.

Arriving at Filbert Street, I was told by the car park attendant that O'Neill was the best manager in Eogland. Seven months ago he ranked rather lower in the estimation of supporters, who staged a sit-in demonstration after a



'He was such a good teacher. The

key is not to try and imitate him.

home defeat against Sheffield United. O'Neill refused to shelter in the bunker of his office. Instead, he met fans to explain the situation. Leicester City won six of their remaining eight matches and emerged victorious from the play-offs.

"You either cave in or get stronger and I decided to take the latter option." O'Neill said, "People said that the game was a watershed. After 13 weeks in the job, the last thing I wanted was a watershed. The fact is that there had been a lot of false promises here. The previous manager [Mark McGbee] had upped and left saying the side was good enough to win the league at a stretch. That was ludicrous, because there was no appreciable difference between the top eight or nine sides. But I was landed with

that prediction." Leicester's first nine matches have confirmed to O'Neill that the Premiership is a far harder league than the old first division that he remembers as a player. There is little chance now of a side emulating Forest in 1977-78 and

winning the title immediately after promotion. O'Neill played on the right of midfield that season, opposite John Robertson, now his assistant at Leicester, and admits he could not have wished for a better

managerial tutor than Clough. "People say it is amazing the way so many of that side have gone into management, but why should it be, because

he was such a good teacher?

O'Neill came to Forest in

1971, having been a part-time

player with Distillery. He

scored on his debut, but could

not prevent the side from

being relegated. Nevertheless.

it was a huge opportunity - and not only for the 19-year-

old. Soon after arriving, he

brought his mother and

father, two brothers and two

sisters to England as tension

mounted in Northern Ireland,

The key is not to try and

imitate him."

"I came to England posi-tively to play football, not just to leave Ireland," he said. "We were relatively secure in Belfast, but events proved that no place there was really secure

O'Neill later discovered that success could elevate sportsmen above sectarianism. He played in the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain.

Northern Ireland

reached the quarter-finals. He

had won 64 caps when his

career ended because of a

cruciate ligament injury at the

age of 32, which also prevented him from bridging the

move to administration

through player management.

Instead, he took on the reins

at Grantham Town and

Shepshed Charterhouse be-

fore laking Wycombe Wan-

derers from non-league into

the second division of the

Football League. Disillu-

sioned by what he considered interference from the chairman, Robert Chase, at Norwich City, he moved to baving turned Leicester. down the job a year earlier.

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Leicester have settled in midtable in the Premiership. above West Ham United, who they visit today, and praise gushes from O'Neill when he discusses the start of the season. "For years, Leicester have been seen as a selling club. Well. I want to change that image. The way to keep players like Emile Heskey and Neil Lennon is to show them you have ambition. When they see progress is being made and they win matches, they are

happy," he said.
"Our problem will come if we lose key people, because I do not have the money to replace them with somebody capable of doing as good a job. But if we survive this season, the Heskeys and the Lennons will see we are going forward." By confounding predictions and staying up, O'Neill will have the final word. Not for the first time.

Presence of Keane at Newcastle gives Keegan food for thought

AND RUSSELL KEMPSON

ALEX FERGUSON, that master of pre-match psychology. seems to be up to his old tricks against Newcastle United. The Manchester United manager said yesterday that Roy Keane, their injured midfield player, would travel with the squad to the North East, but would not play in the important FA Carling Premiership match on Sunday.

The more astute have long taken with a pinch of sali Ferguson's utterings before a big match. Keane is a vital cog in the United machine and. if he is close to fitness, as Ferguson suggested, then it is likely that a risk will be taken on his presence and he could

play some part. We are taking Roy with us to Newcastle. He'll train with us so I can gauge his fitness for myself, to see just how fast he is progressing." Ferguson said. inviting the suggestion of an ulterior morive in the international's Ireland

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said in midweek that the Uefa Cup rie against Ferenevaros was "a tremendously open game". He might have substituted defence for game, such was

point is not lost on Ferguson. They will be forced to attack us and I'm expecting a lot of space to open up, " he said.

place as Tbilisi early next

month. Gascoigne's waning

genius has given us all much

It is the present state of the home side's defence that will hold the key to the contest. Should they defend as they did in Hungary, then Manchester United will surely repeat their significant victory of last season at St James' Park. Philippe Albert, however,

dismissed the mounting criticism about Newcastle's defending. "It is unfair in the extreme, and I just can't understand the critics at all," the defender said. "I believe that we are genuinely putting it right."

If the game at St James'

Park promises to be an open affair, then the Merseyside derby is unlikely to follow suit. Everton have not lost to Liverpool under Joe Royle, their manager, and he is intent on maintaining his record, even if it demands stilling tactics. Royle will include Dave Watson, the veteran defender, who has played just 45 minutes of first-team football all season because of a hernia.

Liverpool have no injury problems, but Roy Evans, the manager, is concerned that his side buck the recent derby trend to maintain their

impressive thrust at the top of the table this season, and he said: "If we are to win the title, then we have to perform in the

big games like this." Football's "feel-good" factor has infiltrated Wimbledon, for a change, and they are making the most of it. Joe Kinnear, the manager, has led his side to six successive victories, a club record, and fifth place in the Premiership. He has even made peace with Holdsworth, his unsettled striker. Now, even though he can-

not find a place in Kinnear's successful side, Holdsworth is talking to Sam Hammam, the club owner, about a possible extension to the two years remaining on his contract.



Keane: joins squad

London to Chelsea today. where a victory, if other results go their way, would take them to the top of the Premiership. "We're at last getting the respect we deserve but we mustn't get carried away with it," Kinnear said.

Chelsea, in sixth place, will not be celebrating the return to first-team action of Ruud Gullit, their player-manager. Though he played his first full game of the season, since a knee operation during the summer, for the reserves on Thursday, he is still not fit enough for the Premiership.

Gianluca Vialli will start after his goalscoring appear ance as a substitute in the 3-1 victory against Leicester City last weekend, but Dennis Wise, replaced by Eddie Newton at half-time, will stay on the bench. Steve Clarke takes

over the captaincy.
Peter Shilton, 47, the former England goalkeeper, has had his hopes of making his 997th League appearance today dashed. He was due to replace the injured Scott Barrett for Cambridge United against Rochdale at the Abbey Stadium, but was recalled by West Ham United after Steve Mautone was hurt in training.

Weekend Money, page 33

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER

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CHANGING TIMES

SHINTY: KINGUSSIE EXPECTED TO DOMINATE AGAIN IN BADENOCH DERBY Newtonmore face unenviable task

By COLL MACDOUGALL

THERE are two important contests in the Marine Harvest Premier League today: the derby between Kingussie and Newtonmore and what should be a very close encounter at Mossfield Stadium between Oban Camanachd and Kyles

At one time a Badenoch derby at The Dell would have been the dominant contest of the day, but for the past decade the importance and standing of these confrontations have diminished as Singussie have dominated the sport. ewtonmore have had a traumanc time. making early exits from cup competitions

and struggling in the league. The irony of the present situation is that they find themselves second to their opponents in that table. This young,

inexperienced side, which includes only three long standing players, have defeated invertary. Oban Camanachd. Glasgow Mid-Argyll and Glenurguhart. Their only defeat has been at the hands of Kyles Athletic, yet nobody expects them to do

other than lose easily to Kingussie. lan Ross, the Kingussie manager, is fortunate to have so much talent and experience at his disposal that outstanding players such as Michael Clark and John Gibson often start as substitutes. Nune comes more talented that Ronald Ross, the manager's son, who has been the top scorer in shinty for the past three years. Even if opposing teams manage to contain him, they are faced with his colleagues, particularly the formidable Borthwick brothers: Ally, the captain, David and Steven.

Oban Camanachd, despite snatching

years, have failed to reproduce that form. Defeats by Newtonmore and Kingussie, a victory over Glenurquhart and a draw with Fort William is not the standard that they should produce. Yet, Nigel Evans, their new manager, is puzzled at what changes he should make. The pool of players is almost identical to that which Colin MacDonald, his predecessor, had, yet success is noticeably absent.

the Scottish championship in June after 58

While home advantage should make a difference, there is little likelihood that his team will outwit Kyles, who have performed well since their promotion last season. Apart from a drubbing from Kingussie, they have shown a tenacity of purpose and rediscovered the art of scoring. Even without Dan MacRae, who is injured, they should at least take a share of the points ar Oban.

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SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 1996

Henman has look of champion

FROM DAVID MILLER IN OSTRAVA CZECH REPUBLIC

YESTERDAY I saw the man likely to become the first Briton to win Wimbledon for 60 years. In defeating Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa, ranked No 7 in the world, to reach the semi-finals of the Czech indoor tournament here, Tim Henman gave a performance as good, if not better, than when beating Yevgeny Kafelnikov at Wimbledon this year. In the truest

sense, it was complete.
On the fast Green Set surface, manufactured in France, Henman hit ten aces. More impressive than his consistently deep and powerful serving, however, was his range of ground strokes. After going down 6-4, 6-3 in

57 minutes, the outplayed Ferreira said, a shade grudgingly: "Tim's definitely one of the best of the young players. with as much potential as any

Ferreira is Henman's second scalp among the world's too ten players, and this will be his sixth ATP Tour semi-final, David Felgate, his

coach, who tends to be as carefully understated as his 23-year-old protégé. said: "Maybe he has never played better, though he was good against Forget, a fortnight ago [in Lyon]. He's played greater rallies and greater points, but when the two opportunities came to break serve, he took them instantly." It had been the same against Greg Rusedski the previous day. To reach his first final

tomorrow, Henman must today eliminate not Todd Martin, as was expected, but David Prinosil, of Germany. ranked No 58. In yet another upset, Prinosil, a few months older than Henman and with a single career title last year, beat Martin, ranked No II, in straight-set tie-breaks. Prinosil defeated Henman

in the first round of Wimbledon in 1994 and subsequently in two Challenger events. With Goran Ivanisevic and Boris Becker also gone from the top half of the draw, the prospects look invitingly open for the first British player with a champion's demeanour since the legendary Fred

Perry.
There were a number of



Henman reaches for a forehand during his authoritative victory over Ferreira

Henman's display as being special, notably the care and cunning with which he constructed the winning of key points. That which secured the first set was an example. Serving at 5-4 down.

Ferreira looked comfortable with an opening ace. The next service Henman returned deep, came in behind it and put away the next volley. Another sound return and Ferreira's awkward backhand half-volley from mid-court

into the net had the South African in trouble. Next unforced backhand down the line, advanced to the net and Ferreira, attempting a crosscourt forehand pass, again found the net: 15-40.

squandered the first set point with an overhead forehand, but now he revealed the knife. Three times he ran round his backhand on the baseline, as Ferreira tried to force him wide on his weaker flank, to hit penetrating flat forehands to Ferreira's own favoured two-fisted backhand. After the third, Henman sped to the net to punch a forehand volley to the opposite corner. Ferreira, whose emotions lie close to the surface, banged his racket on the ground in irritation.

In the next game, opening the second set, Henman was fortunate to escape from his only, brief loose phase, Leading 40-0, with Ferreira hang-ing his bouffant head of sandy curls. Henman allowed his opponent to recover to deuce ith three consecutive errors. He then reasserted himself, and with mounting authority moved to a 4-3 lead. If Ferreira, with 13 titles to his credit, was to make a fight of it, now was the moment.

Under pressure from Henman's steady returning. Ferreira was 15-40, but recovered to deuce. He saved a third break point and twice himself

held advantage point, which Henman nullified with winners. On the fourth deuce, Ferreira hit a huge swerving service wide to Henman's forehand. At full stretch. Henman uncorked an acute and unplayable dipping crosscourt return, and then took the game with a deep backhand return on the next service.

Without wavering, he served to love for the match. He had put 62 per cent of his first services in court, winning 28 out of 33 (85 per cent). That is champion tennis. Ferreira had won their only previous encounter, in Toronto just before the US Open, in straight sets.

Henman quietly savoured his achievement. "I don't think I've played better against an opponent of that calibre," he said. "I felt good about all aspects and served as well as I ever have. In Toronto, I was on the defensive. Today, I wanted to take the initiative." He did, with a vengeance.

It is particularly helpful to the British No I that, unlike either of his opponents of the past two days, bad calls leave him unmoved, beyond the occasional sardonic gesture.

League in late bid to prevent strike by players

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

LAST-DITCH negotiations are to be held between the Football League and the Pro-fessional Footballers' Association (PFA) in an attempt to avert a walk-out by Nationwide League players. It is understood that the result of the strike ballot, due to be announced at lunchome today, may be delayed as officials from both sides enter into eleventh-hour discussions.

The final counting of votes - believed to be 90 per cent in favour of industrial action took place, independently, at the headquarters of the Electoral Reform Society. in London yesterday. Though the League has maintained that a strike would be illegal, the PFA went ahead with its ballot, confident that it would receive the expected mandate

from its members. However, the League's door remains open. "It always has been," Chris Hull. a League spokesman, said yesterday. "We're in the business of consultation, not confrontarion, and there may be developments ahead that could change the situation."

The dispute involves the amount of money that the PFA receives annually from the League's television revenue. Traditionally, it has been ten per cent, but the League has changed it to a "discretionary" payment. In light of the League's £25 million deal with BSkyB - part-owned by News International, owners of The Times - which came into effect this season, the PFA wants the ten per cent figure reinstated.

After lengthy yet fruitless discussions, the PFA decided to ballot the Nationwide League players, provoking claims of "brinkmanship" from the League. Any strike

Broad canvas Football's moral failure . 51 Honours graduate

would come into effect early next month, with the PFA instructing its members not to play unless the television cameras were withdrawn. The Grimsby Town v Sheffield 4. United fixture, on November 3, is the first in the firing line. Huddersfield Town against Bradford City, on November 8, and Crystal Palace against Queens Park Rangers, on November 10, could also be

PFA chairman, said. With no live screening of the games, the clubs would probably forfeit their match fees -£40,000 for the home team.

affected. "There's no reason

why the games can't go ahead.

as long as the cameras are

turned off," Pat Nevin, the

E20,000 for the visitors. Gordon Taylor, the PFA chief executive, and Brendan Batson, his deputy, have missed the developments this week, having attended a twoday meeting of the International Association of Football Players' Unions, in Athens. They were due to return last night and are expected to resume talks with the League

early next week. Brighton and Hove Albion's future in the Naconwide League appears even more uncertain after Portsmouth, who they were due to share a ground with next season, pulled out of the agreement. Brighton have to find a new home by May, when their oneyear deal with Chartwell Land, the owners of the Goldstone Ground, runs out.

Uncertainty also surrounds Port Vale, the struggling first division club. Bill Bell, the chairman, said yesterday that the club is likely to close unless a buyer comes forward in the next week. Bell. who put Vale up for sale on Thursday said that the only interest had come from "a business outside

Champion reveals his fighting qualities to snatch victory after inglorious morning

Stricker fails to match Els power play

THE extraordinary fighting qualities of South Africans at matchplay golf, first demon-strated by Gary Player at Wentworth in 1965, were displayed again in the second round of the Toyota World Match Play Championship yesterday. Ernie Els, the dedown to Steve Stricker, of the United States, at lunch and then produced a sublime second round to snatch victory on the last green.

It was 31 years since Player, six down at lunch against Tony Lema, lost the 19th and won on the 37th. Yesterday Els's afternoon round contained eight birdies in 16 holes. If it had not been so wet and miserable, it could be said that he set the West Course alight. He chipped in twice and had only II putts on the outward nine on his way to a 66. With an almost British display of understatement, Stricker said: "It was pretty disappointing to lose a six-up lead but he did

have a wonderful last 18." Considering that play was delayed in the morning for nearly two hours because of flooded greens, and that rain fell heavily for much of the afternoon, the standard of golf was remarkable. It would have been a credit on a sunny, calm autumn day such as Thursday. Vijay Singh was merciless in his dismissal of Steve Jones, going to the turn in 30 after lunch before finishing off the US Open champion on the 28th hole.

Tom Lehman was out in 32 in his afternoon round and beat Mark O'Meara 6 and 5 and Mark Brooks, the US PGA champion, birdied the 17th and 18th holes in both rounds to sneak home by one hole against Colin Montgomerie, of Scotland. Brooks and Montgomerie were round in approximate 67s in the after-

Stricker's pale face is naturally taut and emotionless. When you watch him to try to gauge his reaction to a stroke it is impossible to read any-thing into his expression. He cuts a modest figure, wideeyed, gushing in his politeness

and continually undervaluing himself. I think I am the underdog for the whole tournament" Stricker said, which suggests either that he is spoofing, because that role belonged, surely, to Nobua Serizawa, of Japan, or he is one of the few Americans in tive thinking.

Stricker may be underselling his ability because yesterday morning, in particular, he looked imperious, reaching

DETAILS

QUAFITEH-FINALS: V Singh (Fiji) bt S Jones (US) 9 and 8; T Lehmen (US) bt M O'Meara (US) 6 and 5; E Els (SA) bt S Stricker (US) 1 hole; M Brooks (US) bt C Montgomerie (GB) 1 hole. SEMI-FINAL DRAW: 08.30 and 13.00; Els v Brooks. 08.45 and 13.15; Singh v

every par-five in two except the 18th and getting his birdies at all of them. There is no denying his inexperience, however, and when he had to face the full blast of Els's counter-attack after lunch he revealed more of the raw

young man that he is. From the moment that Els chipped in on the 21st one sensed that the balance was tilting the champion's way. On the 25th Els hit his second



Brooks smooth putts

to eight feet. On the 26th he chipped in from well off the green. On the 27th, Els hit his second well right, chipped to 40 feet and holed a putt that, to Stricker, must have felt like a blow to the solar plexus. "That was a hallelujah putt," Els

down and there were moments as someone in the crowd shouted: "Come on Ernie" or some such encouragement when Stricker must have felt particularly lonely. There were not many cries of: Come on, Steve." At times like that, Stricker he must have felt in need of some reassurance. Perhaps having his wife as his caddle was not for the best in this situation. She, too, looked slightly intimidated.

Stricker will depart these shores with the roars of a bedraggled crowd ringing in his ears in acknowledgement of a remarkable shot on the 36th hole. His drive having ended in a bunker. Stricker attempted too much with his six-iron second shot, the ball catching the lip and shooting sideways. Then came the shot that lit up a dark, damp

He stood with one foot half in the bunker, took several swishes at his ball and then let fly with a three-wood that reached the green and stopped 15 feet from the flag. That was one of the best shots have ever seen," Els said.

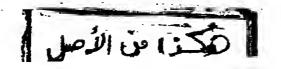
Brooks showed in winning the US PGA last August that he can roll in the putts and he underlined this in his defeat of Montgomerie, who was two up on the 25th tee. Five successive holes were halved from the turn in the second round before the American sank a 22-foot putt on the 33rd to take the lead, though Montgomerie levelled the match on the 34th, Brooks then chipped and singleputted on each of the two par ives that bring the West Course to such a rousing conclusion. The first gave him a one-hole lead, the second the match by one hole. He will play Els today.



Els displays the power from the tee that helped him to retrieve a six-shot deficit against Stricker yesterday

GRRR AHA MMM'S PORT

Just roll it round your tongue. THE PORT OF AUTHORITY



Cheap Seat's fun

AFTER BUMPING my head on the door frame and seeing the coffee mug slide off the aerodynamic bonnet, I resolved to see the Seat Alhambra through less misry eyes, Nick Nuttoll writes.

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SPORT

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After five months driving an E-registration Yugo (a loan from my wife's grandmother after the family Audi was dispatched to the scrapheap by a head-on collision) any new car would make me feel like a lottery winner, especial-ly one in which children can be eased rather than shoehorned into seats without breaking my back.

And so motoring hedonism was mine for several days in the driving seat of the Alhambra. motoring around the Normandy countryside with children, mother and aunt, packets of cornflakes and luggage up to the substantial gunwales.

Gone was the familiar grinding of the Yugo's rear axle, an effect not 100 dissimilar to a Dakora taking off. instead, here was a motoring smoothie which slid serenely over poplar-edged.

Gallic country roads, Even

my auntie Marjorie, who en-

Audi v BMW

in coupé war

■ AUDI IS attacking BMW's

aspirational 3-Series Compact by

pitching prices for its new A3 coupé

up to £2,000 lower. The three-door

A3 will cost £13.796 yet still be

packed with goodies, such as anti-

lock brakes, immobiliser, twin

airbags, electric windows and pow-

er steering. The top car in the range

The A3 is another brick in the

wall of the company's changing

image, from frumpy bridesmaid to Mercedes and BMW, Germany's

Big Two, to outright challenger.

That is why Audi might not bring

any five-door versions here, aiming

instead to pitch the coupe's Image as

will be the 1.8T Sport at £17,860.

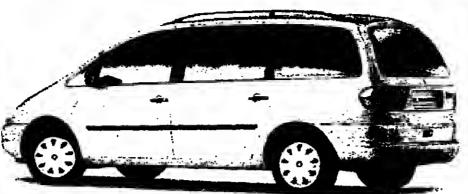
ROADTEST

joys a good naner, was kept enterrained and purse-lipped trying to divine the workings of the electric windows.

These seemingly turbo-charged gadgets would zip up and down, oblivious to her shouts of "stop". In the wake of her allempts to master the controls, other leatures. fitted as slandard, seemed a worthwhile luxury; particularly the air conditioning which meant we could sit in comfort without auntic having to worry about gering a blast of fresh air from her zinny electric her zippy electric

THE ALHAMBRA. for all its good points, does have a few drawbacks for the serious family man likely to buy a vehicle like this, with its pretensions to be the perfect transport for the nuclear unit. Take that bonnet: it might be luel-savingly aerodynamic, but on a picnic it's of little use to man or beast. The shape instantly dispatches the Thermos, the wine glass and the corned beef tin to the floor.

On a more important note, I



هكذا من الأصل

Looks familiar? The Alhambra is a close sibling of costlier MPVs from Ford and VW

found the Alhambra's braking system happily up to the job when fully laden, particularly when a tractor suddenly emerged from a light bend.

The anorak brigade will also have noticed that, apart from the silvery Scat badge, the Alhambra is a dead ringer for a Ford Galaxy or VW Sharan. That is because the Seat is the product of a joint venture between Ford and VW - Sear's owner - and to all intents and purposes is the same MPV or "people mover". The difference is the price and extras. The Alhambra includes a three-year unlimitedmileage warranty, twin air bags, roof rails and luggage cover as standard.

SEAT ALHAMBRA

Engine: Four-cylinder 2-little petrol developing 115bhp at 5.400rpm through a five-speed manual gearbox driving from wheels. Automatic gearbox version available by the end of the year.

Performance: 0-62mph about 14.4 seconds, top speed 110mph, fuel consumption 42.2 mpg at 56mph. Equipment: airbags, radio-cassette with eight speakers, from electric windows, air conditioning, threeyear warranty, central locking, roof rails, luggage compartment cover.

£2,000 cheaper than rivals. So

Price: £16,995

All in all, it means that when the free kit is included, the Seat, with a basic price of £16,445 on the road, is about

why buy a Ford or VW when you can rush out to buy the same vehicle? You just have to forego the the familiar brandimage badges.

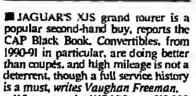
FORECOURT

The A3: priced to undercut next year, among 30,000 Audis, a substantial improvement on the

20,000 cars of 1993. Audi needed to act, with BMW increasing the pace. BMW this week unveiled its gorgoeus Z3 Roadster in Britain and promised all 3,330 advance orders would be supplied at £19,950 during 1997. Fears were high that BMW would be overwhelmed by demand for its new American-built sports car, with its 1.9-litre engine, but the British a prestige competitor to BMW. arm has secured product Around 5,000 A3s could be sold here 4,000 right-hand-drive cars. arm has secured production of

FOUR WHEEL

DRIVE WANTED



When new, the XJS V12 was £12,000 more expensive than the six-cylinder cars, but the VI2's 12mpg fuel con-sumption means little difference between second-hand prices. Expect to pay under £20,000 for a 1992 4-litre convertible and around £25,000 for a

Land Rover's Discovery TDI turbodiesel is good value too, and pre-1993 cars are best value. Image is second to none, insurance costs are relatively low and resale values strong. Expect to pay slightly more than £12,500 for a 1991 Jreg five-door TOI with under 50,000

The Kia Pride is cheap and cheerful.



Mileage no deterrent on the XJS

represents excellent value, and is cheap to run. But it runs on fantastically daftlooking whitewall tyres.

The LX model represents best value, the 5-door in particular, so expect to pay under £3,000 for a K-reg car with under 40,000 miles on the clock. Beware ex-driving school cars and any with above average mileages. The Pride is a remodelled Mazda 121 so there is reassurance that the heart of the car is mechanically sound, plus the added advantage that any car costing less than £3,000 second-hand, if looked after, can never lose much money when you come to sell it.

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SPARE PARTS

MORE THAN 90 years after heads bobbed from behind hedges to warn motorists of police ahead, the AA is celebraring a milestone: nine million members, a third of all drivers, Kevin Eason writes.

It grew out of the Brighton Moior Road Pairol which kept watch on the Brighton Road to warn motorists of upcoming speed traps. In 1905, the Automobile Association wes founded to represent the interests of the motorist.

Now the AA has 3,800 patrols, more than any other mororing organisation, and handles around 30 million cries for help and information annually. It is a majur business, from insurance to finan-



cial services, credit cards, driving schools and hotel bookings

TIMES HAVE rarely been better for Fiat in this country with booming sales. Now the range is being extended with turbo-diesel Bravo and Brava models, and a Brava 1.6SX which gets a lour-speed automatic transmission.

The 1.6 SX transmission is mated to the five-door hatchback's tried-and-rested 16valve 1.6-litre, which can pump out 103bhp, so that acceleration from standstill to 62mph is still a respectable 12.2 seconds and top speed 112mph. Fuel consumption is 27.4mpg on average.

The diesels use a 1.9-litre power pack worth either 75bhp (44.mpg sverage fuel consumption) or 100hhp (44.1mpg). Prices will be announced soon.



Brava: extended range

USED CAR BRIEF

Renault Safrane
Before the Safrane there was the 25, a meandering and bloated executive car. Renault launched the Safrane in 1993 as a five-door hatchback to boost the company's executive appeal. Initially available as a perior-powered 12-valve 2-likre worth 135 brake horse power, there was also a powerful 3-litre V6. A year leter came the upmarket RT complete with 140bhp 22-litre. From 1994, 2-litre RN models had eight valve, instead of 12 and less power while 2 3-6 litre button diesed with valves instead of 12 and less power while a 2.5-litre turbo-diesel with automatic transmission was added

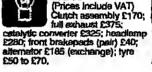


have air conditioning and power steering is standard. Best news is that the birth of the Safrane meant

Executive and V6i models with leather heeted windscreen and electric front seats. Make sure electric toys and on-board computers work as they are costly to replace. Four-speed automatic is smooth and responsive even if

rour wnests, matched to latest generation anti-lock braiking on all models ensures the car stops as well as it goes. Bigger is best when it comes to safety and the Safrane has the size and weight to hold its own. pays around \$228 fully comprehensiva. A 22-year-old male with a year's no claims living in South London, pays \$2,085, e woman \$1,720.

REPLACEMENT (Prices Include VAT) Clutch assembly £170; full exhaust £375;



£10,000 for a 1993 hatchback, 29,000 for e 1993 K-reg 2.0RT, £11,250 for e 1994 L-reg 2.2RT, £10,500 for e 1994 L-reg 2.0RN and £14,750 for a 1994 L-reg 3.0RXE V6 five-door.

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BAD NEWS Street "cred" almost

non-existent, probably why company fleets never really took to the Salrane in any significant numbers. That means, however, the Salrane is a little known quantity

second-hand, so used prices for such e modern, capable and big

stamped service
history. Steer clear
too or ovariy-expensive
models. All big cars, including
Safrane rivals like the Granada and

Salaria invalue the Carmadul assively, especially in the first two years of ownership, if you pay over the odds, then it will be you who loses money when you come to resell.

Cover from AA Insurance, 0800-

car are more than competitive

Reneult's big cars, unike their cheeky smaller models, always struggle with image, or lack of it. The Safrane was preceded by the Renault 25, little loved here, and the Safrane is last becoming the Cinderella of the range. The car is big, while tast deprecedion on new models means they fill all the classic requirements of e lot of car for not much money second-hand. For luxury lovers seek out the Executive and V6i models.

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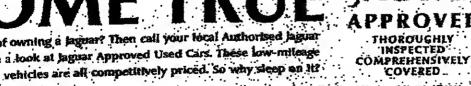
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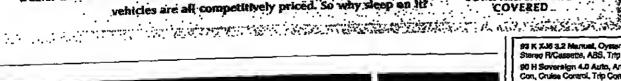
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Move is tiny.

stylish and set to hit the UK.

Stuart Birch says it shifts

Ferrari, Porsche or Aston Martin and you know you'll get storming acceleration, wonderful engine noises -and possibly a speeding ticket. Totally wrong. What actually happens is that the wheels start black-lining the concrete.

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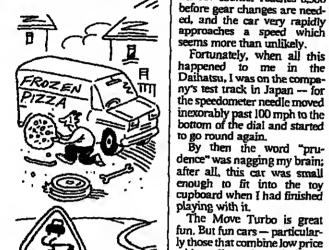
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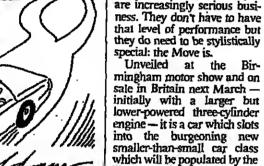
ife is full of surprises: the Daihatsu Move

Turbo is one of them. Floor the throttle of a

R 19 1996







مكذا من الأصل

Pocket rocket at pocket-size prices Daihatsu's



The Move Turbo is a true mini supercar, combining great fun with a low price. Daihatsu's initial British imports will have a larger but lower-powered three-cylinder engine

The Move is angular and high without in any way being mighty. Built to conform to Japan's micro-car dimensions, it is 3295mm long, 1395mm wide but 1695mm tall. The result of this is roomy, practical and surprisingly attractive.

he car should also be value for money. Paul Williams. Dalhatsu UK's managing director, is hoping the Move 850 will sell in Britain from about £7,000. But even the top specification, with central locking, electric windows, optional air conditioning and automatic transmission is not likely to be much more than £8,000.

"Our research shows we are likely to have a very wide cross-section of people buying the Move," says Williams. People will love or hate the

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Move, it polarises views but the common thread among people who like it is that they are prepared to be a little

different."

I tried a Move in Japan similar to the model to be sold in the UK. It has a very deep windscreen and a roof probably big enough for you to be able to wear a top hat if you really want to. It is supremely easy to drive, particularly with power steering and a threespeed automatic box, which may be offered as a no-addedcost alternative to manual.

Not only do the front seats adjust fore and aft; so do the divided rear, further adding to Move's versatility. All seats can be folded down to make a bed. Luggage space is reasonable and there is a big, sideopening tailgate. Suspension is firm and the

CHEAPEST Toyotas possible. The Toyota Shop really do try hanter 01520 722636 saytime

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4.0

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DAIHATSU MOVE

Engine: Three-cylinder 850cc, 42bhp driving five-speed manual gearbox, three-speed automatic option. Performance: 0-62mph about 14 seconds; top speed 91mph (auto 85mph), composite fuel consumpion 47.9 mpg. Equipment: Not yet decided but basic model with driver airbag, radio-cassette. Top model with electric windows and central locking. Air conditioning will be an option on both, power steering a possibility. Price: £7,000 to £8,000.

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that philosophy. Ford's little

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95M Turbo R Green

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ride a bit jiggly. The car feels lightweight as it hustles along on its tiny wheels, but it conforms to all necessary We will introduce the

European safety regulations. 42bhp Move first and are now considering the 64bhp Move Turbo for Britain, possibly with four-wheel drive," says models; even the might of

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TOYOTA

developing its own small Aclass car, while later will come a tiny model, the Smart Car, developed by Mercedes and Swatch. Daihatsu has reason to be confident of the Move's success. In Japan, 100,000 were sold in eight months. The company will also intro-duce a scaled-down MPV, the

Grand Move, next March. Unlike the Move it is conventionally shaped, but still roomy, and will sell for £11,000 in basic form; about £13,000 with air conditioning. ABS brakes and other goodies. Lightly loaded, its performance from a 1500cc engine proved brisk, but with four adults on board, acceleration was a shade tardy although top speed is around 100 mph. There are two further

Daihatsu models on the way:

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door hatchback at only £6,000 from next May, and a four-wheel-drive 1.3 litre "sports utility", rather like a smaller version of the Toyota RAV4.

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aihatsu was the first Japanese company to sell cars in the UK. The Daibatsu Compagno Berlina is now all but forgotten although the first of the few sold in the UK has been restored and is owned by the company.

The Move is set to be something else altogether. Daihatsu says it has been the fastest-selling car ever in the Japanese market.

And if Daihatsu also decides to bring the mini supercar Move Turbo to Britain, do consider making room for it in your toy cupboard: it's a

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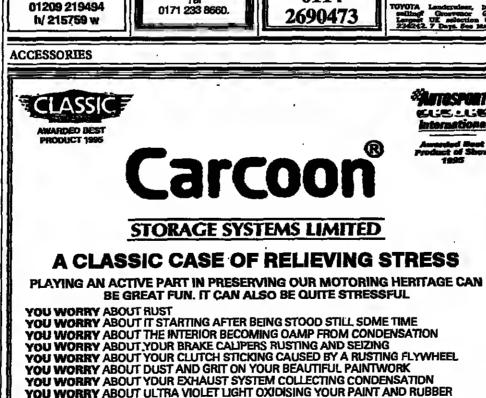
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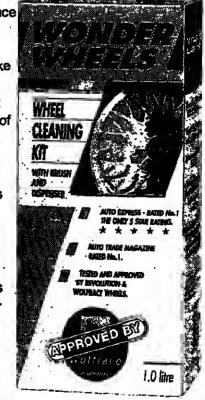


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Steelmakers are helping our flabby cars slim down, says Vaughan Freeman

Weight of things to come?



Sunglasses from Serengeti take care of winter glare

You can see clearly now

Thousands of drivers wear a permanent frown at this time of year. They turn their cars to head off into the sun ... and they can't see a thing. Low winter sun is a menace for drivers. who have to squint into glaring light shining directly into their eyes. Wearing any old sunglasses is not the answer. for fashion is only one factor when deciding on eyewear behind the wheel.

They might look good, but vision could be distorted by glasses with lenses that are too dark for prevailing condi-

CORRECTION

ACCESSORIES

in our Cars from Hell column of July 27, we incorrectly suggested, later in the article, that the TVR Centre at Arkley owner of a TVR Chimaera never to purchase one again. We apologise to the TVR Centre for this error.

OFFER

tions but not able to deal with the brightest light Serengeti specialises in sun-glasses that give clear sight for

driving, with photochromic lenses which adjust to the light and absorb damaging ultra-violet rays. But style also plays a part and Serengeti makes frames in a range of styles, from classic shades to clip-ons for motorists who have prescription lenses. We have 20 gorgeous pairs of Serengeti glasses to give away, so that Car 96 readers will be able to see clearly. To enter all you need to do is answer the following question: on what day, and at what approximate time, was the last partial eclipse of the sun? - and get it to us, on a postcard, by October 28, Reply to Serengeti competition, Car 96. The Times, I. Pennington Street, London El 9XN. Usual

Yesteryear's radio was ousted by the radio-

cassette and now there is in-car phone and CD player with racking system in the boot. On-board alarms are a way of life, as are roof-mounted skiboxes and cycle racks. More

ike Billy Bunter on

cream-tea diet, today's steel-based cars are

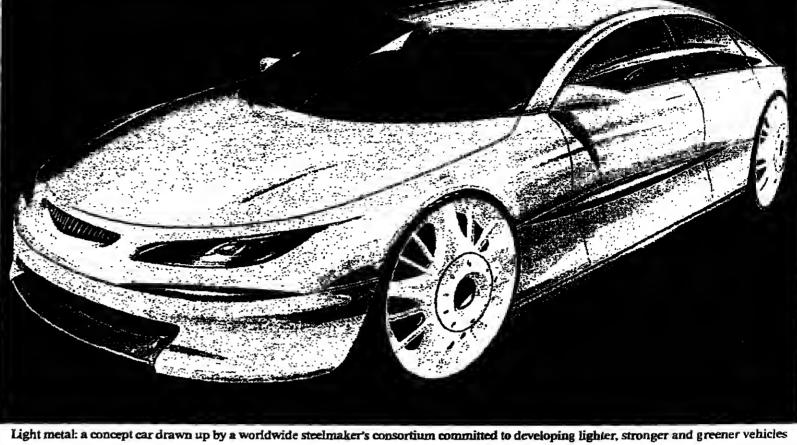
getting ever fatter as

weight again. New emissions regulations to be introduced in the year 2000 and more again that are proposed for 2005 will also add weight, just as the addi-tion from the early 1990s of catalytic converters added weight. Meanwhile almost every new car is now fined with an airbag as standard for the driver, with side-impact door beams.

If there is an automotive equivalent of the Nigel Lawson diet, it is usually offered as a cocktail of ingredients including aluminium (expensive and difficult to work). plastic, and the exotic and eyewateringly pricey carbon-fibre materials derived from Formula One racing.

Can steel then survive as the carmaker's material of choice? Ten years ago everyone was confidently forecasting that we would be driving to the funeral of the petrol engined car in its battery-powered successor. But now it seems that the end of steel is nigh.

Yet every year the world's carmakers consume something like 35 million tons of steel, and more than half of a modern car is built of steel. If steel is seen as somewhat



old-fashioned technology, it is the image, not the material. that is outdated. It is one of the few materials that is 100 per cent recyclable. Almost half the steel in a brand new car is in fact "old", recycled steel living a second, third or fourth life, and in the near future around 95 per cent of the steel in a car will be recycled.

The problem for car manufacturers is to reverse the trend of cars getting heavier, while slaying with steel, a material they are familiar with and which has few rivals for its practicality and versatility.
To help them, British Steel

has established its own Automotive Engineering Group (AEG), based in Coventry, which will have a staff of 30, aimed at helping carmakers and components manufacturers come up with lightweight steel cars and parts for the

The aim is to cut the weight of steel cars by a third, says British Steel technology director, Dr Jeff Edington: "The car industry is of vital importance to British Steel and represents about 20 per cent of our total business. Our bottom line is to offer customers good value for money and we think steel is the solution."

Former Ford and Nissan engineer Jon King, the Group's director, says: "Vehide manufacturers face the major challenges of the next millennium, of fuel economy, cost-effective manufacture, enbanced safety and improving the environment.

To help in these tasks. British Steel will be focusing on reducing vehicle weight by tion of new technology, while exploiting the inherent high quality and low cost advantages of steel, its crash-worthiness, ease of manufacture and

the steel and automotive industries to help produce vehicles that are safer, more durable and easier to manufacture and recycle. The aim is a 30 per cent weight reduction, but we are not going to get there in one leap.

In collaboration with more than 30 other steel companies. British Steel is also taking part in a \$20 million worldwide venture known as ULSAB, the UltraLight Steel Auto Body, to share research and development of the new svelte, slim and lightweight Kate Moss of tomorrow's steel-car world.

Dr Edington says. The idea behind ULSAB is to take a car by using new steel and

new steel technologies."
But surely steel is steel is steel? Not so. New steels using high-carbon and alloys are being developed which will last longer, and resist wear and fatigue more effectively. while at the same time giving greater strength and reducing

Another avenue will be to collaborate on the design of cars right from the start, so that the steel experts can help car designers and manufacturers eradicate design flaws which result in more steel than necessary being used, so adding unnecessary weight.

The result, if all goes according to plan, will be steelbodied cars far stronger and safer than today's, despite having shed a third of their weight, so that their owners can then add even more luxuries, bigger stereo speakers and more bicycle racks, without worrying about what their

Magor and Newport junctions. A4067 Swansea;

contraflow at Ynysforgan.

A90 Aberdeen; restrictions and lane closures on the

A66 Between Cockermouth (A5086) and Bassenthwaite

ake (B5291); temporary

M77 junction 23, Dumbreck

A74 Between Millbank and Paddysrickla; a single lane

A9 Perth; restrictions in

Interchange; no right turn from the M77 onto Dumbreck

SCOTLAND

bridge of Don.

each way.

both directions.

DR DASHBOARD

Haven't these new cars been built yet?

This new steel car sounds great, I can't wait to see it at the motor show. What is it like?

Afraid I don't know. The car was launched at the motor show but actually nobody has built it yet.

Never mind, how sexy is the new baby Land Rover, which I read so much about this week? That was launched at the motor show, wasn't it?

Actually that isn't at the Actually use the show not-the-car-launch show. The baby Land Rover will not appear until next year's motor show at the earliest.

What is the pool a making a fuss about a car that doesn't exist and which we can't see?

Lots of reasons. BMW A wanted to counter the bad publicity its has been getting since its takeover of Rover. Announcing the £350 million project proved BMW is investing lots of lovely money in Rover and builds expectations among buyers.

What's the point of going to the blessed Motor Show then?

A So you can see lots of cars which have only just reached Britain, of course. You can see that fabulous new Jaguar XK8. Ferrari's new 550 and the pretty little Lotus Elise three cars new to this country and among dozens of models on show.

What do you mean dozens? Are there more than usual then?

A Lots more. Carmakers have become very clever at using the same basic components and chassis to make several different cars. So instead of turning out cars by the 200,000 all the same shape, they are putting new bodies on similar floorpans to extend production of conventional saloons and hatchbacks into convertibles. estates, people carriers and sports cars. The result is more choice than at almost any time in the history of the industry, a selection of models you can see in Birmingham in the next week.

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE carriageway reduced to three lanes for widening work near the Thelwall Viaduct.

A635 Barnsley, Doncaster

Road closed outbound.

restrictions on the central

A548 Between Oakenholt

M4 junctions 35-34;

A472, Pontypool:

and Kelsterton; contraflow.

contraffow between Ponternoile and the Heron

M4 junctions 23a-24; lane

roundabout. Expect lengthy

motorway. M1 junction 47; major long-

A167M Newcastle:

term roadworks.

WALES

A21 Orpington; roadworks on Sevenoaks Road. A217 Wandsworth; roadworks on tha south side of Wandsworth bridge. southbound traffic diverted from the Archway roundabout. A406 East Finchley; traffic down to e single lane. A4005 Harrow, temporar lahts on Headstone Road

● SOUTH-EAST M4 junction IO; entry and exit sliproads at the Reading East (A329M) junction

closed overnight.

A4 Heading; restrictions and lane closures.

A404 High Wycombe; temporary lights.

M25 junction 2-3; contraflow. A415 East of Abingdon; various restrictions. M25 junctions 6-10;

restrictions and lane closure: both ways. SOUTH-WEST A38 Near Liskeard; contraflow. A381 Teignmouth; restrictions for roadworks. M5 junctions 17-20; contrallow with a 50mph speed limit across the Avonmouth Bridge A38 Gloucester, major roadworks on Cole Avenue.

A303 Yambury Hill; MIDLANDS AND EAST A500 Talke — Stoke on Trent; contrallow. A6 Lockington; contraffor from just north of the M1 junction 24 to Sawley island (B6540).
A137 Ipswich; traffic down to a single lane.
A41 Wolverhampton; temporary lights on Bliston Road between Eagle Street and Chillington Street.

● NORTH M6 junctions 20-21s;

MAJOR ROADWORKS Other delays

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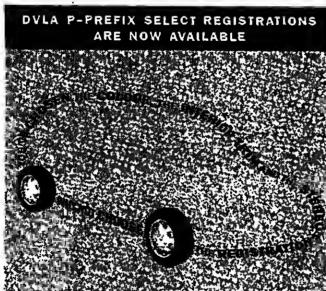
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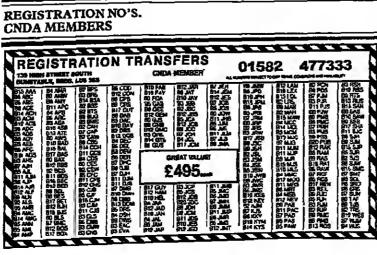
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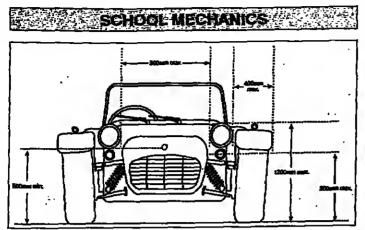
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Kevin Eason meets the inventor of a self-build budget car who has written an idiot-proof guide to making one

The Locost option spares expense



Read all about it: simple engineering for weekend carbuilders

on Champion couldn't afford to buy the car his student son wanted - so he built it himself. The result was a natty two-seater costing just £250 made from scrap and spare parts.

The simple design was so suc-cessful that Ron's students at Oundle School have built 30 versions of the little car and there are queues of pupils trying to get into his motor engineering classes.

As the world's biggest carmakers show off their latest models which can cost the price of a small house to buy - at the motor show this week. Ron has revealed the secrets of building a car for the equivalent price of a couple of family grocery bills in a new book so that more people can make the model he calls the Locost. Ron gives advice on how to raid scrap yards for the bits and peces you weld and screw together to make a

car in your garage on weekends. To the mechanically inept, the idea sounds horrifying but Ron says that anybody can build a car, given enough time and patience.

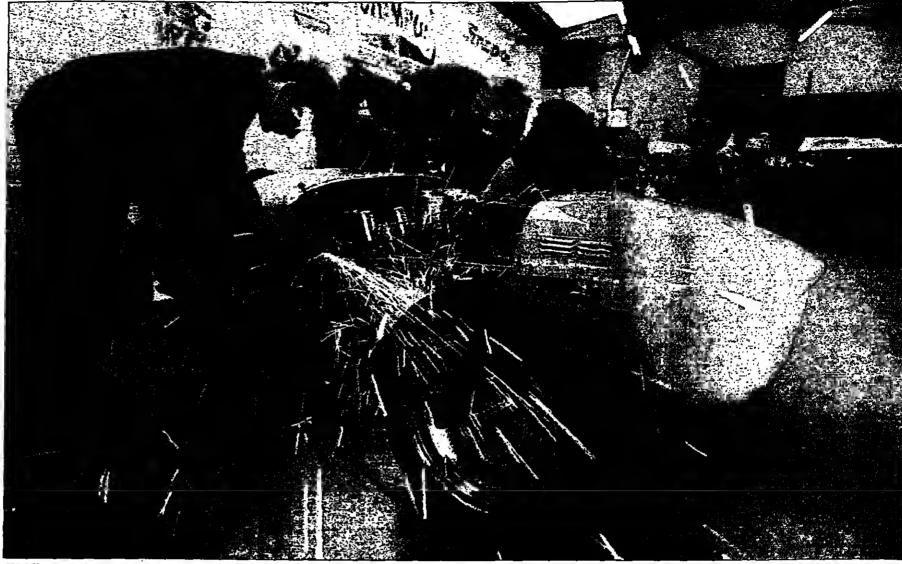
We have 13-year-olds who come to my classes who have never even seen a welding torch before, never mind make anything like this," he says. "A year later, they own their own sports car, something they would normally only dream

Car owners brought up to expect models which come shiny and new from the showroom will find it difficult to imagine a car designed and made in a workshop in Oundle from a motley collection of components. But the heritage of the entrepreneurial mechanic turned carmaker is a long and honourable one. Colin Chapman. the legendary founder of Lotus. started out making his own little two-seaters, epitomised by the cheap and cheerful - and still revered - Lotus Seven.

It is no accident that the Locost looks like a Seven: the cars might be a generation apart but the logic' behind both is the same. Ron says: "For a student like my son James, a car is an expense he cannot afford. But he has run the Locost for four years now and it is cheap. reliable and easy to maintain."

Depending on the engine and transmission set, the Locost could reach an 85mph top speed and 50 miles to the gallon. Ron says it is safe, using a tough chassis and conventional brakes, and each model has to pass an MoT test before it is allowed out on the road.

How hasic or how sophisicated the Locost becomes is entirely down to ambition and budget: cars as old as an Austin A35 have been cannibalised for gearbox bits. though the most common donor cars are Ford's ubiquitous Escorts



Welding wonder: motor engineering pupils at Oundle School are inspired by the idea of putting together their own cars out of hits and pieces found in scrapyards

knows no bounds after the success

and Cortinas. Ron's advice to potential makers is not to bother with the finery normally associated with cars. If you can't afford to paint it, don't; windscreen wiper mechanism an expense? Then don't have a windscreen and buy goggles instead. The idea is to keep the cost at rock bottom, though enthusiasts can elaborate over the

years. James Champion did .a paper round to save money for a pretty chromed suspension, and invested in a £15 set of alloy wheels from a scrapyard. He managed to find a windscreen for £2.50 after trawling through the stalls at the Beaulieu Autojumble. Even now, James's car has no hood. Meanwhile. Ron's ambition

of the Locost. He is planning a new and bigger model which will be reminiscent of the glory days of MG and British sports cars - and this time it could cost as much as £1,000 to build.

 Build Your Own Sports Car For As Little As £250, published by

BITS YOU NEED

 Engine: Carburettor, starter, water pump, exhaust manifolds, gearbox, clutch, rear axie with brake drums. propshaft and universal joints, steer ng rack, wheels (tyres and nuts), ediator, exhaust system. Controls and cables: Steering wheel; clutch, brake, throttle

pedals; clutch, throttle, choke ca-bles, handbrake lever and mounting, dashboard, instrument cluster. Electrics: Alternator, battery, complete wiring loom, starter so-lenoid, ignition coil, distributor, horn, headlamps, flasher indicator units, fusebox

Extras: seatbelts, fuel filler cap, hoses and clips, fuel tank sender unit, brake light switch.

MOKE SUCCESSOR?

n a world filled with different cars that all look the same, the Bandit shows that individuality can still exist Andrew Haves

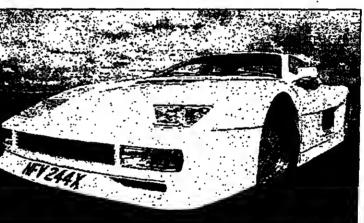
Brothers Chris and Andrew Mynheer, who signed and built the car call it a re for the Mini-Moke, year-2000 style. "People have very mixed reactions mainly because the shapes are in odd places, but it seems to have had the desired effect," says Chris.

Few, however, will reject the idea of a modern beach-buggy, containing the 1.4 twincam Rover K-series engine, under which lies a spaceframe chassis.

"We've targeted it specifically at certain markets," says Andrew, "one being the holiday hire market abroad."



The Bandit it could feature in thousands of happy holiday snaps



The Ferrari-based kit car is lighter than the real thing, and fast, too

SUPERCAR FROM SHED

wo men who built a car in a garden shed in their spare time are in line to win a production contract worth almost £2 million from a group of Singapore businessmen. writes Adam Fresco.

Colchester, Essex, began making their kit car, resembling a Ferrari Testarossa, in 1991.

Wright says: "We built a workshop, started with a Jaguar V12 engine on the floor and built the car around it. The radiator had to be 45 degrees either side of the engine so the Ferrari was a good shape to base the styling on."

The car is 360kg lighter than a real Testarossa and can reach 60mph in just over five seconds. One of its first buyers is Peter Filby, publisher of Kit Car magazine.

Hari

THE MAZDA

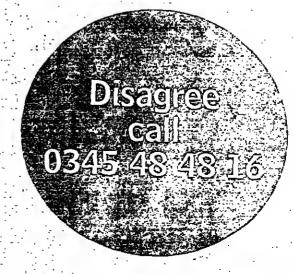


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A cunning new scheme to revive our old village shops

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THE Countryside Campaign

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ith the Government announcing its intention to cut £20 a week off the rates bills of village shops, only one problem remains before the much-needed revival of the rural shop can take place: where to find someone mean and miserable enough to run it. This is not the insult it appears

to be. We can all point a finger at some old rural battleaxe who would rather see the bananas in her shop go rotten than sell them with a smile. But I am referring more to behind-the-scenes management.

For reasons that will become apparent, I have been closely observing the ways in which supermarkets operate. The day staff are drilled to perfection in showing false delight at seeing us; the night staff we never meet. But hang around a supermarket for long enough and you will spot another class of operator: very smooth, hunting in pairs, wearing blazers and muttering into miniature recorders while standing thoughtfully over the

Whoever these people are, I want one. In fact, given the decline in the rural shopping rate cut, thank you). These are the mean, miserable and manipulative ones, the secret driving force behind the stunning success of food retailing in the late 20th century. If anyone

could make a village shop work, surely they could. All this is on my mind because

there are mutterings in our village that the shop needs to be reopened. This is somewhat against the national trend, with the Village Retail Services Association warning that 3,500 village shops are on the brink of

Village shops cause passions to rise in people not normally susceptible to emotion. In the village of Grosmont, high on the North York Moors, residents launched a coup when they felt their community shop was not being run as well as it could be. There were dark mutterings about "fresh faces" being needed behind the counter.

In East Hanningfield, Essex, villagers were incensed when their post office closed. Under pressure it was reopened — but in the pub. The villagers were unhappy with that, too, so they clubbed together and bought their own hut.

For our village it is early days yet. But public meetings are being talked about.

As one who comes from a family of shopkeepers, all this talk is causing me to tremble inwardly. One uncle of mine had Taylor, in Sheffield, and made parcels of clothing wrapped in brown paper and tied with white string better than I have ever seen parcels made. My other uncle had exactly the sort of rural



Old-fashioned service at a small shop in Gwent, 1982. To compete with supermarkets, village stores need real smells, real people and if all else fails, a roadblock

shop that our village needs: boning bacon was his particular forte. Funny how these things run in families. I am already

The balance needs to tip back in favour of the village shop, and urgently. Unless you live in a village and have no easy access to transport, it is difficult to appreciate how tortuous the process of buying half a pound of

ics come from Wiltshire. Of the population of 600,000, 36 per cent live in communities of fewer than 6,000 people. Sixty per cent of employed people living in the country drive to work, leaving 85,000 carless dependants marconed every working day. Some 15 per cent of all rural households have no access to a car at all. If these figures were repeated nationwide, then the sheer volume of people walking the verges in pursuit of teabags would surely force the Government to dig deeper and pull out rather more

than £20 a week. in my ideal village shop, the first defining characteristic would be the smell Supermarkets are odourless places (we are no longer conned by the ducted smells from the in-store bakery). Village shops should be exactly the reverse.

I would shun the packaged,

wrapped and clingfilmed, instead letting the aroma of coffee beans mingle with the sharp scent of sides of bacon. There would be a scruffy child buying penny chews and, on the counter, huge truckle of cheddar cheese with a black cat asleep on it. This shop would last all of half an hour before the health brigade closed it down.

So let us be realistic. If you cannot run a village shop on traditional lines any more, you have to exploit every chink in the supermarkets' armour - start-ing with their discouragement of conversation

Those who think that country help) is struggle.

raw forces of nature should realise that these are insignificant compared with the tidal wave of gossip that is constantly slopping back and forth through rural communities.

Quite honestly, for a lot of country dwellers there is not much else to do. And so it becomes sport, recreation, an allconsuming activity of Olympic proportions. It is exhausting. That is why a real village shop needs a chair.

Any help and experience you have to offer would be much appreciated. I know that starting village shop (if I am invited to help) is bound to be an uphill

which could help it get off the ground: it involves a roadblock. All cars entering the county on Friday evenings would be stopped and searched. Any evidence of basic foodstuffs being imported in supermarket carrier bags would lead to confiscation, the products being removed and sold to village residents the next day at half price.

That would get visitors and villagers alike flooding through the shop door on a Saturday morning. A mean trick, almost worthy of the Miserable Ones from the supermarkets who are driving us to such desperate measures in the first place.

Hark, hark, the geese do bark

coast there is a new sound to be heard. It is the barking cry of the brent geese as they swirl in over the water and land on a sandbank. They have come all the way down from northern Siberia to spend the winter on our mild shores. By January, practically half the world's population of brent geese will

They are the smallest wild geese to be found in Britain and are very distinctive, with their black head and neck and white collar-mark. Their cry, like an excited pack of dogs, is also unmistakable. It has given them the alternative country name of

"clantergeese".

Their lives are governed by the tides. Their favourite food is eelgrass. an underwater flower that is exposed on the mudflats when the tide is out. They tug the leafy plants out of the soft mud by the roots, which they especially like eating. In fact, they will sometimes not be the to eat the leaves, and grazing duck such as wigeon will follow behind them, picking up their leavings.

As the ride comes in, they swim out a little way and continue to feed by "up-ending" so that their tails stick up in the air like a field of little tents. With their long necks they can reach the eelgrass almost a yard beneath

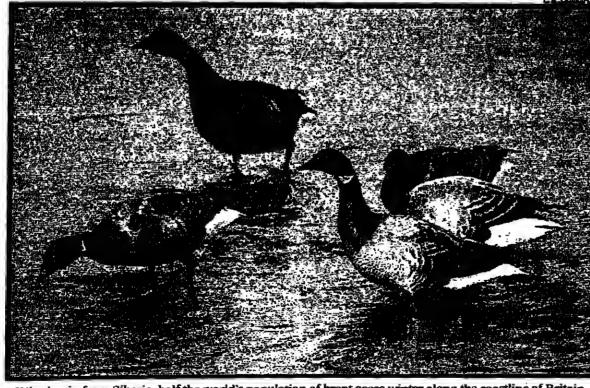
But at high tide they have to stop, so off they go to sleep on islands or on banks that the water has not covered. They are indifferent to night and day - they can feed by touch, and the state of the tide is their sun and

However, in the New Year their behaviour changes. These wintering flocks have increased in number in recent years and, by the end of the year, the eelgrass is often getting scarce. So in search of an alternative food source, they turn their attention to the fields alongside bays or

Brent geese are one of the few species of bird to have benefited from the increasing tendency of farmers to sow their wheat and barley in the

This has hit the small birds that used to feed on the neglected stubble. But for the brent geese it has provided an excellent new source of

food in the short winter days. By January the fields are covered with long lines of green shoots, and the geese flock in to feed on them. Oddly enough, the farmers do not complain. It does little harm to the



Winging in from Siberia, half the world's population of brent geese winter along the coastline of Britain

crop if these early shoots are culled in fact, sheep were once left to graze on the winter corn. The geese only become a nuisance when the land is very wet and their big webbed feet trample the growing plants into the

When they feed in the fields, the rhythm of their days is more like that of the other wild geese, the pinkfooted and greylag geese. They fly into the fields at dawn, in long trailing skeins, and back to the water or the islands at sunset.

That is when you have the finest view of them — a baying flock sweeping through the air, with the orange rays of the setting sun gleaming on the water, and on their bronze brown plumage as they brake and splash down.

ltogether there are reckoned to be about 200,000 brent geese in the world, all breeding high up in the Arctic. About 90,000 of them are found in Britain in the depths of winter, but as the days lengthen some of them move back across the North Sea to the Netherlands and Germany. Most of these are of the dark-breasted form. but there is also a light-breasted

FEATHER REPORT

brent goose that breeds in Greenland

and in the north of Canada. Oddly enough, birds of this pale variety come mainly to one place in England — the island of Lindisfarme. The brent geese that turn up around the Scottish and Irish coasts are also of the lighter-coloured form.

It is well into early summer when our dark-breasted winter visitors arrive home in the Siberian tundra, after wending their way slowly across the north of Europe and Asia. feeding avidly and building up their strength at every opportunity.

In Siberia the snow will just be

melting and if they are lucky the first grass will be showing through - food for the summer days. Here they will meet again the brent geese who went in the other direction in the autumn and spent the winter in Japan and Korea

Then they will all make their nests among the broken rocks, lining them with moss and with the down that their own bodies so plentifully

supply.
Several large cream-coloured eggs

are laid in this warm bed, and the females spend almost a month incubating them. By the end of the short summer, the bleak tundra will be swarming with noisy brent goose

But we only know them as birds of the long nights and short days. Here they are companions of other wild, wandering creatures who move as they do, with the tides — the knots and redshanks who feed along the sucking mud of the waves edge that wildfowlers call the "plick-plack", and the curlews whose rippling calls ring out through the night.

DERWENT MAY

 Feather Reports: A Chronicle of Bird Life from the Pages of The Times by Derwent May, illustrated by Robin Jacques, has just been published by Robson Books at £12.95.

◆ What's about: Birders — Look out for jays collecting and storing acorns ready for the winter. Twitchers - there is a great knot at Teesmouth; northern waterthrush at Portland Bill, Dorset: two-barred greenish warbler at Wells, Norfolk Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.

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Why the British are staying away from France



The town that tourism forgot

In the shadow of a breathtaking cathedral, bounded by a forgotten river, beats the ancient heart of Gerona: a medieval Jewish ghetto

ll great or once-great cities have sobriquets: none more so than Gerona, a Catalan gem neglected for the past 200 years. "City of a Thousand Sieges", "Barcelo-na's little sister", "The City of Split Personality" — modern Gerona has more than its foir share of handles but fair share of handles but none tells the whole story.

At the confluence of the Ter and Onya rivers, in a valley surrounded by tumbling hills, Gerona has an eye popping history and a pal-pable present-day ambiente. The Catalanya Gereralitat calls it a city for the 1990s waiting to explode". This may be so - but for the time being, one of Gerona's greatest attributes is that tourists leave it pretty much alone, even though it lends its name to the nearby charter airport which serves the Costa

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table

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It was not always so. Conquered in turn by the Romans and Moors, Gerona is used to being in the spotlight. Suleiman sacked the city, Pippin the Short overran it. Philip the Daring re-established it, Napoleon played diplomatic volleyball with it. But the adversity that shaped Gerona has rendered

Driving up the A7 from Barcelona and feeling my way through the spider's web of new roads which encircle the city, I came into town via the Plaza de la Independencia — a pint-sized, colonnaded, neo-classical square — and knew at a glance this city was for me. Behind the square lies the Riu Onyar, which divides the old and new towns. River in name but stagnant in nature, the Onyar slops against its banks like an unloved canal in some unfashionable quarter of Venice. On the old town side, medieval houses of umber, sienna and slate-grey abut the water, while the iron bridges seem to span not only the Onyar but history itself, reluctantly bonding

old with new. I crossed at the Pont de Gomez and, reaching the northern bank, dipped under a stone portal and slid effortlessly back 800 years into the Call, Gerona's medieval



Sant Llorenc and the Cathe-Almighty.

o disturbing are the intricacies of Kabbatreat it with suspicion.

Ciutadans confirms it.

Halfway up the steep steps on the Carrer Sand Llorenc, the Centre de Bonastruc Ca Porta is a medieval house in the throes of painstaking reconstruction by the Generalitat. With maps, artefacts and headstones gathered from the old Jewish cemeteries of Catalunya, it The Pont de Gomez crosses the Onyar river and leads to the Call, the Jewish ghetto that is Gerona's medieval heart, thankfully as yet undiscovered by the tourist hordes the history of church architecture. There are Romanesque cloisters, the medieval nave and l6thcentury Museu del Claustre, which now houses most of Gerona's ecclesiastical treasures. Among these are the Codigo del Beatus, a 10thcentury illustrated commentary on the Apocalypse, and the 11th-century Tapis de

la Creacio (Tapestry of the

SATURDAY

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The Times

Creation). Overwhelmed? You will aims to tell the story of be, not least by the view as Gerona's Jews. And if fact you leave the cathedral by its occasionally gives way to conjecture, go with it — for southern doors and descend the largest rococo stairway in the Bonastruc is a great Europe to the Placa below. Nearby, the Banys Arabs (Arab Baths) are unmissable, undertaking in a country which even 30 years ago had yet to come to terms with its based on a Roman design souped up with Moorish Turn left at the top of decoration.

Llorenc, follow the steep and tortuous paths of the Call hile the baths and you come to Gerona's may be unmiss-Cathedral. This is a structure able, every travof superlatives: along with eller knows that that of Palma de Mallorca, it nothing is as unmissable as is remarkable in having a lunch. At El Pou del Call, a single nave — this one is the widest in Christendom. charming restaurant in the heart of the Call, I took time Started in the 11th century off for some boquerones de Cadaques (fresh anchovies), a plate of fideos (noodles) and a jug of white Catalan wine, so young it almost squeaked.

Afternoons in Gerona hold more pleasures still: walks on the Passeig Archelogic along the city walls, shop-ping on the Ramblas de la Libertat, or eating turron ice-cream at Victoria Candel's tea-shop on the Carrer Argenteria. For those with time to spare, excursions to the nearby towns of Banyoles, Olot and Besalu

are ineffably rewarding.
Yes, perhaps it is fitting that the Jews who helped to civilise these lands and were tortured for their pains, should have the last word. When a group of students asked the great Talmudic scholar and Kabbalist sceptic Professor Saul Lieberman of the Theological Seminary in New York whether they could study Kabbalah, he told them they might only study its history. "It is forbidden to have a course in nonsense," he said, "but the history of nonsense, that is

scholarship." Nonsense or not, to stretch a Kabbalistic theme, add up the pleasures of Gerona and divide by the number of city breaks you allow yourself per year the equation will come out every time.

JEREMY WAYNE



A 14 DAY EXPLORATION OF THE HEART OF EUROPE BY ROAD AND RIVER

For our visit to Middle Europe we have organised an itinerary based on six days of touring, followed by a seven night cruise along the Danube. This is the ideal way to explore Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary. it allows the opportunity to visit the major cities of Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest as well

THE ITINERARY

DRY 1 London-Berlin Morning departure with British Airways. Drive to the Forum Hotel or similar for a 2 night stay, Afternoon free for a leasurely stroil along the Kurfurstendam. Dinner in a typical 'Berliner' restaurant.

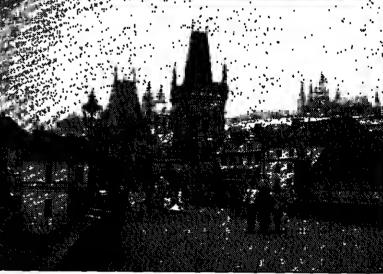
DAY 2 Berlin-Potedam Morning excursion of both East and West Berlin, driving along the Unter den Linden, and past the Reichstag, Charlottenburg Place and the Brandenburg Gate. Afternoon visit to Potsdam—the Versailles of Prussia. Here amongst the splendour of Frederick the Great's creation we will see the palace of Sans Souci, the Tea House and Castle Cecilienhol, where the Potsdamer Treaty was

DAY 3 Berlin-Oresden. Early start today as we drive to Oresden, the historic capital of Saxony. Virtually flattened by Allied bombing in WWII, the city has been rebuilt in the spirit of regeneration which is now so prevalent in the former East Germany. Visit the Zwinger Palace, a wonderful collection of Baroque pavilions, galleries and gardens. Later see the Semper Opera House and the ruins of Cur Lady's Church, Stay overnight

DAY 4 Dresden-Meissen-Prague Morning departure to medieval Meissen for visits to the Porcelain Museum and Factory. In the afternoon drive through the lovely countryside of Saxon-Switzerland to Prague. Stay 2 nights at the Oiplomat Hotel or similar. Dinner in a typical Prague beer cesar restaurant.

DAY 5 Prague Our guided tour of the 'Golden City' will include the magnificent Castle area and St Vitus cathedral. Walk along Golden Lane periors driving around the city, referred to by Goethe as 'the jewel in the world's crown'. Afternoon free, perhaps to explore the fascinating Jewish Quarter, or visit some of the excellent museums and galleries

DAY 6 Prague-Passau Drive through the enchanting Bohemian countryside to the picturesque German city of Passau, situated on



as the lovely countryside of Southern Saxony, the Wachau Valley and the Danube Bend

Such an itinerary undertaken completely by coach would indeed be a tiring experience. However, by dividing our time between touring and cruising, we are able to offer a more leisurely schedule. The seven day cruise aboard the first class

the confluence of the Danube, ion and itz rivers. Embark MS Rousse and sail at tea time, through the delightful lush countryside.

DAY 7 Vienna Morning sailing through the scenic Wachau Valley, arriving in Vienna in the late morning. After lunch there will be an optional excursion of Vienna, driving around the Ring and visiting the Old Quarter. Sail in the evening. DAY a Budapest Be on deck as we sail into Budapest, a wonderful site with beautiful views on both sides of both Buda and Pest. An option excursion will include Gellert Hill, the Mathias Church and the Fisherman's Bastion. Also an optional Budapest by Night' tour. Sail at midnight DAY 9 Kalosca Here on the Hungarian Plains (Puszta) we will visit the charming town of Kalosca. There will be an optional excursion this area which is rich in folklore and famous for its horses and riding skills.

DAY 10 Budapest-Estargom There will be a brief stop al BudapesI for those who wish to take the optional excursion overland to Estergorn by way of the picturesque town of Szentendre. Or stay on board and cruise to Estergom, arriving in the early afternoon.

DAY 11 Bratislava Morning in the capital of vakia - optional walking tour available. Sail at lunch time back to Vienna. There will be the opportunity to join an optional Vienna music concert in Schonbrunn Palace. Sail at midnight. DAY 12 Duernstein Armye in the morning. Join an optional excursion to Melk Abbey and the beautiful wine growing countryside of the Wachau Valley. Sail at lunch time.

DAY 13 Passau Arrive in the morning and disembark after breakfast. Optional walking tour of Passau. Later drive to the famous place of pilgrimage at Altotting for lunch at the delightful Hotel Post. Later drive to the city of Munich for might stay at the Hotel Dorint or similar. Farewell dinner in Munich.

DAY 14 Munich-London (Fleathrow) Late morning departure with British Airways to London.

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heart. Here, in a ghetto

GERONA FACT FILE

GETTING THERE: By charter to

146200) from £47 one way: EasyJet (0990

292929) from £49 one way: or British Airways (0345 222111), Apex fares from £185

inclusive; or in Gerona, at the train station,

Accommodation: Gerona does not have

the hotels it deserves. The functional three-star Ultonia on Avda Jaume 1 (00 34 72

comfortable (doubles from £40 plus 7 per

in the interesting old town, the two-star

cent tax), but for something with ambiente

Hostal Bellmirall on Calle Bellmirall 3 (00

34 72 204009) is a guest house with bags of

RESTAURANTS: El Pou de Call (Carrer

de la Forca 14) is delightful and has a menu

locals' choice. At the north end of town, El

Celler de Can Roca (Ctra Taiala 40) has a

del dia at £7.50. La Penyora (Carrer Nou

del Teatre 3) offers the same and is the

Michelin rosette (£25 per person).

203850) in the new town is perfectly

charm (doubles from E35 including

until end of Oct; then train to city centre

time from airport: about 112 hours.

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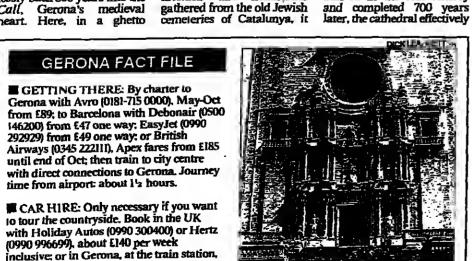
breakfast aod tax).



dral, the city's flourishing 12th-century Jews founded the school of mysticism and While the Torah (Mosaic law) focuses on what God requires of man, Kabbalah uses words, codes and numbers to explore the essence of God himself. Here, along the Calle de lay Forca, wandered the Call's most famous son. Moses ben Nahman -Nahmanides, a modern prophet of Judaism, his mind gebra, acrostics and the

lah that, by the 17th century, rabbis restricted its study to married men over the age of 40 who were already scholars of Torah and Talmud. Even today, many Orthodox Jews

Modish boutiques and bars - for let us not forget we are in trendy Catalunya punctuate the dark streets of the Call, belying its ancient profundity. But Gerona is a university town with a modern appetite for learning. Cycles in alleyways tell you as much and, in the hot siesta hour, the twang of Dylan's Lay Lady Lay from an open window on the Carrer



Jewish past.

Gerona's magnificent cathedral

DON'T MISS: The Cathedral and Museu (Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-2pm and 4-6pm); Centre de Bonastruc Ca Porta (Tuesday-Sunday, iOam-6pm); Banys Arabs (Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-2pm); Museu Arqueologico de San Pere de Galligants (Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-1pm and 4_30-7pm).

BOOKS TO READ: Sarah Anderson of the Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends Voices of the Old Sea by Norman Lewis (Picador, £5.99, ISBN 0 33034 561 3). Homage to Catalonia by George Orwell (Penguin, £6.99, ISBN 0 14018 231 4). Rough Guide to Barcelona and Catalunya by Jules Brown (£8.99, ISBN 185828 1067).

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International skiing: Part three of Doug Sager's round-up of the resorts features the pick of Switzerland

Unbeatable, yes. Affordable, maybe

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THE NATION that invented the winter holiday is now a no-go area in the minds of most British skiers. Both ski guidebooks and tour operators' brochures have drastically cut back their Swiss pages. But the notion that Switzerland is only for the super-rich is ridiculous.

That Switzerland is expensive is unarguable. But Swiss medical services, routine helicopter rescues off the pistes, not to mention communications, banking and hotel infrastructure, are all of a far higher standard than elsewhere in the

Alps.
This week sterling was averaging a 14 per cent improvement over the Swiss franc from a year ago. And there are signs that Swiss indifference to the British market is over.

Switzerland Tourism (0171-734 1921), in collaboration with Swissair and local

tourism bodies, is funding free ski pass and free ski week offers as well as a voucher booklet for dining and shopping bargains. As of January, Switzerland Tourism is privatising its travel service. which will open as the Switzerland Travel Centre (0171-734 4578).

Swiss resorts themselves are attempting to overcome their mercenary image. Determined to ditch its title as "the most expensive ski pass in Europe", Verbier has dramatically dropped its prices. A six-day ski pass in Verbier this winter will cost SFr282 (£141) instead of SFr297, a saving of £29 per week over last year's cost. All other top Swiss resorts, except Crans Montana, kept ski pass prices at last year's Swiss franc level, which means savings in sterling. And Zermatt is allowing children under the age of ten to ski for free.



CLASSIC RESORTS

WINTER holidays were invented in St Moritz in 1864. And even today no resort in the world comes close to St Moritz for high-season high jinks. No resort has more grand old hotels in the four and five-star category. Polo and horse racing, even golf, on ice have been copied by other resorts. But the Gour-

met Festival and the boneshattering Cresta Run remain unique, as does St Moritz's "champagne" climate.

Zermatt's glacier skiing, the highest in the Alps for beginners, leads on 10 Italy, all the way down to Cervinia, with payment of a hefty surcharge. But it is the looming Matterhorn and Zermatt's unparalleled

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mountain restaurants which fill the village's car-free lanes visitors who simply refuse to ski anywhere else, at any

Saas Fee's pearly glaciers hanging over snow-choked streets lined with wooden barns on stone stilts create an awe-inspiring backdrop to what has become Switzerland's liveliest snowboarding scene and skiing which is blessed with one of the most advanced lift systems in the Alps.

CIRCUSES ON ITS OWN, Switzerland

cannot compete in the top league of interlinked ski circus oetworks. But the Portes du Soleil ski pass region shared with France is the fourth largest in the Alps and has no better headquarters than modestly priced Champery, an easy 90-minute drive from Geneva airport.

Switzerland's biggest skiing area, the 400km of pistes of the Four Valleys centred in Verbier, is the focus of the most varied and exciting lift-accessed off-piste skiing in the Alps, not to mention a wealth of reasonably priced self-catering and chalet accommodation.

Little known to British skiers is the 225km expanse of the White Arena spread around the sunny cliff bands of Flims, Waldhaus and Laax in eastern Switzerland. This is an intermediate skiing paradise, with an ex-cellent snow record and charming old-fashioned

Two of Switzerland's most evocaove car-free villages. Wengen with its central children's playground and ski slope and chocolate-box chalet Mürren, are comple-mented by the true grit of ski mountaineering in Grindel-wald, dominated by the cold

face of the Eiger.
These delightful villages
make up the 183km Jungfrau region, connected by cogwheel railway rising to the highest train depot in Europe (at 3.454m), from which skiers have the option of descending Europe's long-est glacier, the Aletsch.

FAMILY VALUES ADELBODEN and Lenk, two typical Bernese Ober-land villages without a fur

coat between them, share a modestly extensive (166km) skiing network served by recently upgraded lifts. which is ideally suited to allfamily skiing. The only drawback of the area is that the skiing rises little above Swiss norm.

2,000m, making for uncertain snow conditions in bad winters. Anderman is a "snow hole", reaping storms from three directions and permitting untracked itineraries off

Gemsstock. It is not car-free but there are more children - and cows - in Anderman's snow-covered streets than motor vehicles, yet the resort is not represented in any tour operator's brochure.

every side of the 3,000m

Engelberg can guarantee snow on its 3,000m glacier and, when conditions are right, the Laub off-piste powderfields promise some of the least-crowded deepsnow skiing in the Alps. The village is not quaint, but features a number of oldfashioned hotels with huge rooms and prices below the

The world's only rotating cable car offers spectacular views and is a massive hit with children, as is Engel-berg's night-time sledging. Villars has the conve-

nience of being less than 90 minutes from Geneva airport by car and the family attractions of ample easy skiing ded in to the nearby glacier runs at Diablerets. Rail connections to Montreux and Lake Geneva allow non-skiers to take daytrips to the Swiss Riviera. Furthermore, parents can be assured that the Vaudoise Alps appeal to few helterskelter ski-racer types, and children can be left to make their own way around Villars's less than precip-

itous slopes in safety.

HIDEAWAYS

KANDERSTEG is a retreat from the real world. The Swiss consider anyone from the canton of Bern to be a little slow, but the Bernese Oberlanders who populate Kandersteg have stopped the clock. In addition to grand old hotels from the 19th century, there are conscientiously restored wooden inns from even earlier days where plastic, alloy metals and any foodstuffs not produced locally are banned from the premises.

Leukerbad is an old spa town where the spa complex has been recently modernised and where the 30-room five-star Sources des Alpes provides the ultimate in understated elegance, so far unknown to the British market and unrepresented by any tour operator. Skiing is limited on the piste but the off-piste itineraries really are

the stuff of legend. And Zinal is the Verbier of tomorrow. Somehow discovered by Club Med, this hamlet, drowned in snow at the dead end of a lonesome drive up from the Rhone Valley, is served by only one cable car and seven surface lifts. Club Med says that Zinal is for infants and small children, but older skiers will find it an uotouched powder playground too.

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Zermatt, with the highest glacier skiing in the Alps for beginners, attracts loyal visitors who refuse to ski elsewhere

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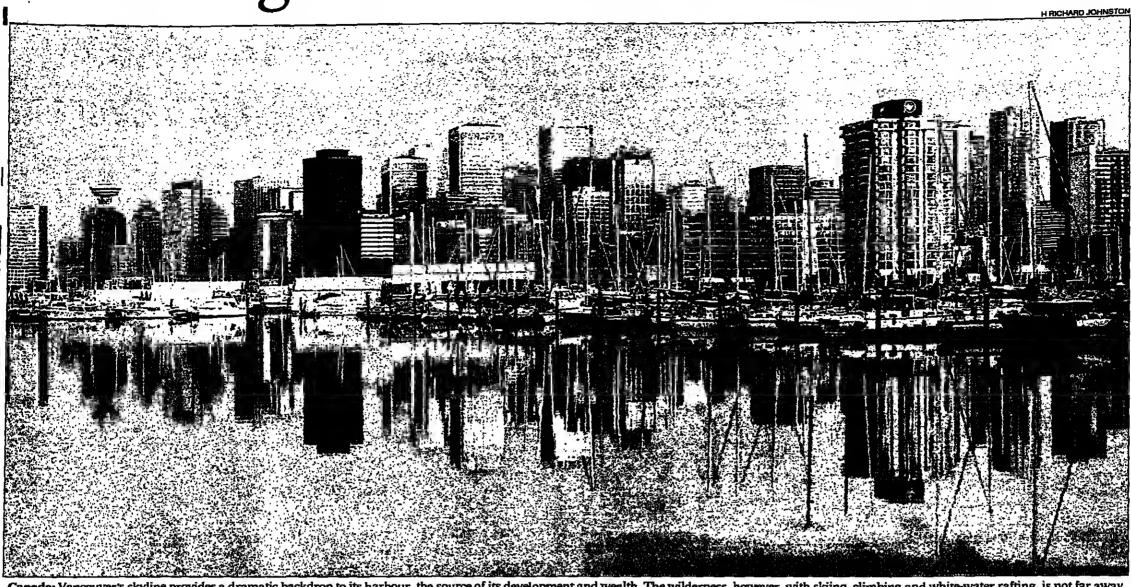
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Canada: Vancouver's skyline provides a dramatic backdrop to its harbour, the source of its development and wealth. The wilderness, however, with skiing, climbing and white-water rafting, is not far away

ertain cities make me wonder if I could live there—Barcelona, Paris. New York. Vancouver is another. When I'm there I spend my time peering into the windows of houses, watching people walking their dogs on the beach at sunset, sitting in cafes staring at the city map, and thinking: "Could I do that? Could that be me? Would I be happy here?"

I grew up in British Columbia, the province of which Vancouver is the urban jewel — but I left when I was 17 and have no idea what it might be like to live there as an adult. But it's a great place to have a holiday.

Relatively unscathed by

the 1990s recession that has battered the rest of Canada, Vancouver has boomed for much of the past decade, ever since playing host to Expo 86. Like its near neighbour to the south, Seattle, it's the place to which people want to move. It is one of the few Ca-

nadian cities where you don't have to spend half the year shovelling snow off your doorstep and scraping ice off your car windshield. The climate is fairly benevolent—sunny mild summers and damp mildewy winters that bring to mind the temperate rainforest that once covered much of this coast.

The city is possessed of a kind of Pacific Northwest lala lotusland mentality, the good life pursued above and beyond all else. Vancouverites believe in getting the best out of everything and this appears to translate into great food, clean air, and easy access to myriad outdoor sports. Not for them modern urban angst—at the weekend they're more likely to barbecue a salmon, talk about the environment, and admire each other's mountain bikes.

With its organic supermarkets and all-night gourmet wholefood restaurants, Vancouver is definitely a place to go if you are interested in food. The weak Canadian dollar makes eating out inexpensive and you can indulge in whatever culinary ethnicity you desire, from Ethiopian to the ubiq-

Californian-inuitous fluenced West Coast cuisine. Enormous and desirable muffins are everywhere blueberry, cranberry, pumpkin, carrot. The smoked salmon, which in no way resembles the anaemic strips of limp flesh on offer in - must not be It is wet-smoked from the half-dozen varieties of pacific salmon that teem up the rivers of the province on the way to spawning grounds every year. Granville Island.

Granville Island, a redeveloped point of land beneath Granville Bridge on False Creek, is home to the splendid Public Market, a foodie paradise, as well as art galleries, a theatre, restaurants, and the Emily Carr

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school of Art and Design. But it is the Chinese restaurants that really make eating in Vancouver unique, redefining one's entire notion of a Chinese meal. The Chinese population of this city is as old as the Caucasian -"coolie" labour was imported during the nineteenth century to help to build the about 20 city blocks and the pavements heave with people all shopping and eatng. Over the past ten years this old and settled population has been hugely augmented by an influx of people, and money, from Hong Kong. In the run up to Chinese rule in 1997, Vancouver has been the preferred destination of many.

The accessibility vast, untrammelled wilderness of this relatively unmeans that Vancouver is a great starting point for all manner of excursions into nature, from ocean kayaking and mountain climbing to white-water rafting. An hour and half up the coast is Whistler, currently the most successful and highly praised of North American ski resorts. In summer there is whale-watching as well as day trips to the network of Gulf Islands wedged between the mainland and Vancouver Island. In spring you can ski in the morning, have lunch in the city, and then sail all afternoon.

lithin the city limits there are also endless opportunities for communing with the great outdoors. The spectacular Capilano Suspension Bridge is in North Vancouver, just across the Lions Gate Bridge; a mile further up the Capilano River is the Salmon Hatchery, and a mile beyond is the Grouse Mountain skyride.

Mountain skyride.

The driftwood strewn city beaches are peaceful as well as extensive. Stanley Park, an enormous wooded parkland in the city centre, surrounded by water on three sides, has lakes, woods and gardens as well as a zoo, an aquarium, a cricket pitch, and a seawall promenade more than six miles long. Kitsilano and Jericho Beaches, with their stunning views of the downtown highrise core set against the

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backdrop of the Cascade Mountains, are good places to picnic and walk. British Columbia's acres of

British Columbia's acres of endowment lands contain the Pacific Spirit Regional Park, providing ample space for solitary treks through The University of British Columbia is also home to the Museum of Anthropology, its collection of West Coast Aboriginal Art unrivalled. British Columbia is the land of totem poles, ceremonial masks, and hand-carved Haida war canoes; the city's galleries provide livelihoods for many aboriginal carvers, some of whom make glorious silver,

copper and jade jewellery. Vancouver has transformed itself since its not-solong-past days as a grubby industrial port full of lumberjacks and fishermen. The city does not look east-ward toward Toronto, but situates itself firmly on the Pacific Rim, extending its welcome westward, to Japan, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. With a population of over a million, it prides itself on a laid-back lifestyle, simultaneously urban and natural. I can't say if I'd want to live there, but it's a great place to spend a week.

KATE PULLINGER

The author was a guest
of British Airways and Avis
provided a car.



Totem pole in Vancouver

FACT FILE

FLIGHTS: British Airways (0345 222747) fly direct daily from London Heathrow to Vancouver. Economy fares range from £439 to £519 for flights booked 21 days in advance for a minimum of seven nights. Air Canada (0990 247 226) also has direct flights daily from London to Vancouver, fares range from £349 to £489 for flights booked seven days in advance, travelling midweek.

■ PACKAGES: Trailfinders (0171-937

5400) do tailor-made holidays that include flights, hotels and car hire, starting at £672 per person and £931 for two people for one (0181-889 0849) offers packages through British Airways, flights and four-star accommodation for seven nights, for £690. Travel Pack (0990 747 101) have a three-night city break, including airface, half-day sightseeing in Vancouver, full-day excursion to Victoria, from £579 per person.

CAR RENTAL: the author was supplied a car coortesy of Avis (0990 900500). Hire for a Group B car for one week starts at £169 plus 14 per cent local tax. All major car-hire firms operate out of Vancouver airport — public transport is not one of the city's stroog points.

■ HOTELS: for accommodation downtown at the top of the market try either the Four Seasons (00 I 604 689 9333) or the Hyatt Regency (00 I 604 683 1234); more economical is the Best Western Chateau Granville (00 I 604 669 7070).

■ RESTAURANTS:

gourmet wholefood, McDonald Bo Kung. Chinese, Main and 14th. Samsons, on Haro and Denman. has West Coast cuisine, wonderful Martinis. Typical price for a substantial meal. with drinks, is about \$20 (£10) per person. ■ TOURIST OFFICE: for information in the UK write to British Columbia House, 1 Regent Street, London SWI. The Canadian

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for information in the UK write to British Columbia House, I Regent Street, London SWI. The Canadian High Commission operates a premium rate information line on 0891 715000 or you can write to the Visit Canada Centre, 62-65 Trafalgar Square, London, WC2N 5DY.







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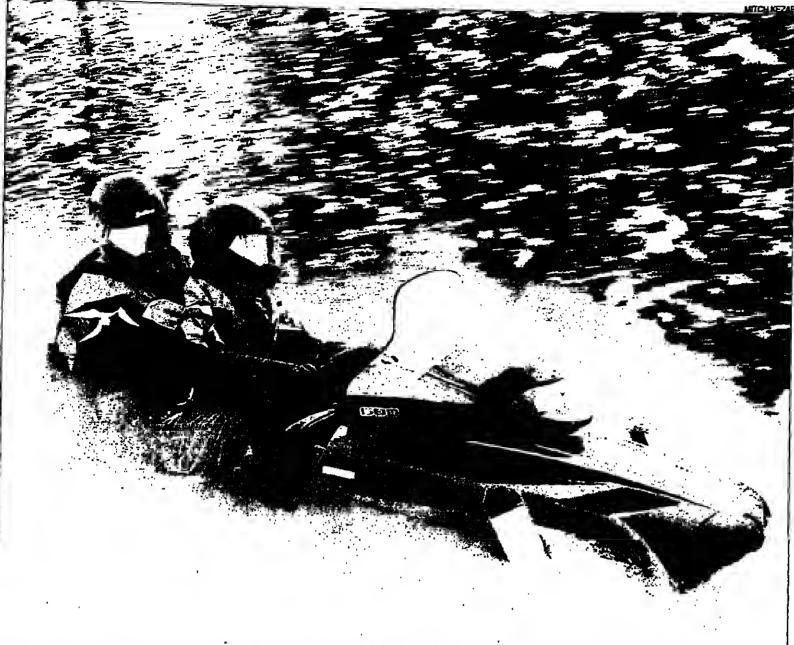
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. but the energetic get their snowshoes on and head for the icy wilderness, or live it up in Montreal

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Snowmobiling, although banned from Canada's national parks as a noisy and antisocial pastime, is nonetheless a truly exhilarating experience

Everything but the skis

n Calgary it was the coldest day of the winter - minus 40 something belched white clouds of vapour into the freezing sunshine. As an old Canada hand, I reassured my companions that it can sometimes, paradoxically, be much warmer up in the mountains than down on the

It can be but it wasn't. In Banff the locals were been so cold - and when Canadians start apologising for the weather, you know it really must be something exceptional.

We had been invited to the Rockies to try alternatives to skiing. There are those, it seems, although I find it hard to believe, whose experiences have put them off skiing. Others may feel that at their time of life, it is too late to start learning. They want to experience the great outdoors but they want something safer and less demanding.
That first morning, the

great outdoors seemed rather less appealing than the warmth and luxury of the Banff Springs Hotel. But the sun was brilliant, the skies cloudless and the air still aod dry, and once we were wrapped in layers of warm clothing it was all quite exhilarating.

Of the various alternatives we could sample during the week, top of most people's list ■ HISTORY: Banff is a pleasant small

town about one and a half hours' drive west of Calgary, which began life as a resort village for visitors to the botsulphur springs discovered during the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1883.

MACCOMMODATION: Both the imposing Banff Springs Hotel (£100 per room) and the Chateau Lake Louise (£155 west in its world-famous setting, are owned by Canadian Pacific Hotels (0171-389 1126/reservations 0500 303030). Like the separately owned Rimrock, across

the road from the hot spring pools, they are top of the range, but there is a wide selection of smaller and cheaper accommodation in both resorts.

FLIGHTS: This winter Air Canada (0990 247226) will operate daily flights to Calgary and Edmooton from £439 return; BA (0345 222111) flies direct to Calgary, fares £349 booked seven days in advance, return within a mooth.

FURTHER INFORMATION: From the Visit Canada Centre, 62-65 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DY (0891

Rockies, so we had to travel

to remote Beaverfoot Lodge

in the Yoho Valley, from

where Challenge Enterprises

operates guided tours along

The snowmobile is best

described as a motorcycle on skis instead of wheels, the

main control being a throttle

mounted on the handlebars,

although there are brakes for

emergency use. The engine is

not only noisy but surpris-ingly powerful and needs a

bit of getting used to. But

once we were off, bumping

trails, it was - environ-

mentally incorrect or not -

enormous fun.

Dog sledding is something

one tends to associate with

the wild years of the Yukon

Gold Rush immortalised in

the poems of Robert Service,

along the winding, rutted

a complex of forest trails.

was snowshoeing, generally considered to be the only activity which offered a serious challenge to skiing. Soowshoes were invented by the Eskirnos - or, as we are now supposed to call them, their winter journeys the Inuits - and are a sort of through the forest. cross between a wicker basket and an outsize tennis racket. Their function is to allow the wearer to tramp across the surface of steep, uncompacted snow in which he would otherwise be floundering up to his chest.

An hour or so's drive up the Trans-Canada Highway took us to the Continental Divide, which at this point forms the border between Alberta and British Colum-bia. East of it the rivers flow into Hudson Bay, west of it into the Pacific. We were met by a guide from White

Mountain Adventures who turned out to be a qualified zoologist, adept at pointing out the trails of moose, elk, lynx, wolves, wolverines and various other creatures on

lthough they seem cumbersome at first, snowshoes are very easy to get used to and require surprisingly little effort, even when climbing quite steep slopes. Whereas cross-country skis ideally require open country or cleared trails, snowshoes allow the wearer to travel into dense woods and across

the roughest terrain. A magical tramp through great silent stands of conifers took us to the edge of a cliff overlooking a huge frozen waterfall. Sculpted for half the year into great walls and columns of ice, it is a popular weekend attraction for climbers with picks and crampons. That, I am glad to say, was not on our itinerary. We picnicked in the afternoon sunshine in the middle of a small lake and if time had permitted, would gladly have gone further.

Snowmobiling, in con-trast, is an altogether noisier activity considered by some to be antisocial and environmentally unfriendly. It is banned from all the national parks, which occupy a large area of this part of the

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Northwest Airlines (01424 224 400) claims

that the Mall of America in Bloomington.

Minnesota, with 400 shops under one roof

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with 21 rides is the greatest. Two adults sharing pay £319 each (or with four sharing

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some of the most remote regions of Alaska

fast, Guernsey and Jersey (£399).

or with heroic polar explorers trudging across the end-less, implacable ice. Nowadays it is a popular sport in parts of North America, with kennels maintained like racing stables and big races attracting sponsor-

ship and prizes.

We were simply passengers, huddled in the bottom of the sledges while our drivers, from Mountain Mushers, rode behind us shouting abuse and enteams. A brisk half-hour trip was quite enough on this occasion, although in kinder weather a longer journey might appeal. For our introduction to the

curious sport of ice fishing we trudged out into the middle of a particularly beautiful lake, ringed by mountains, where a temporary hut had been erected and where our instructor, Jeff Perodeau, produced a large drill with which he proceeded to bore a series of holes in the ice. Each allotted a hole, all we had to do was to bait the hook, drop the weighted line through the ice and gently reel it up and down. Between us we caught a couple of dozen trout.

After finally being allowed to ski on the last day at Lake Louise - several hours of intensive piste-bashing on superbly groomed slopes — we decided to forgo two further offers of skating and sleigh riding. But it had been a thoroughly enjoyable week.

Though they may lack the ambience of the Alps, the Canadian Rockies are majestically beautiful and, thanks to the relative weakness of the dollar, offer unbeatable value for money. At a mountain restaurant above Lake Louise, a splendidly varied self-serve hot and cold buffer as many helpings as you fancied — cost just \$12 (£6). Eat your heart out, Europe.

JOHN YOUNG The author was a guest of the Canadian Tourist Office. Canadian Pacific Hotels and the Banff/Lake Louise Tourism Bureau

CANADA TIPS

Snowsboes are easy to use

for around £750.

SKI OFFERS: A long season, vast skiing areas, good snow and extensive children's facilities are the advantages of skiing in Canada. Low temperatures and lack of accommodation near the slopes are the disadvantages. To cope with increasing demand, Ski Thomson (0990 329 329) is introducing charter flights starting on December 21 to Calgary, with a week at the Swiss Village in Banff costing from £329 for flights and room only, four sharing. A week's skiing in the Canadian Rockies, staying at the Banff Springs Hotel, starts at £515. Ski and boot hire is from £37 a week (performance equipment £75); three days' lessons of four hours each are £65, with lift passes from £110 for adults. £96 for children. A number of family offers are also available.

Where pleasure became a fine art

treal for a quiet week-end. The year in North America's biggest French-speaking city is packed with an endless parade of fireworks, music, circus, motor racing and international film

In winter, the St Lawrence River fills with skaters along the old port and the area is turned over to a massive ice fiesta while the city's magnificent churches and public buildings stage recitals, com-edy shows and exhibitions. its streets and shopping

arcades, forming a 29km long subterranean sanctuary from the freezing winter, glitter with Paris fashions, delicatessens and the coats of its still-thriving fur trade. And with over 5,000 bars and night clubs and an eclectic range of restaurants, Mon-treal is one of the last places to hide under the duvet with a good book and a mug of

The best way to get to know the place on a threeday trip is to head for Dorchester Square, a pleasant tree-lined piazza, where the main tourist information centre is located. Pick up Old Montreal: A Walking Tour. The simple guide takes you on either a two-hour or threeand-a-half hour stroll through the historic areas of a city founded on the St Lawrence River in 1664 by

French colonists.

The old port, once a decaying riveriront, was transformed during the 1970s into Montreal's cultural centre.

Along networks of cobbled streets lined with street entertainers, the visitor can pop into quiet galleries and curio shops or relax in the sunshine at a noisy open-air café sniffing the Gauloises and

The amble takes you past the delightful Notre-Dame-de Bonsecours Chapel at 400 Rue Saint-Paul east. The sailor's chapel, built in 1771. has model ships docated by rescued seamen hanging from the nave. From the smaller chapel, reached by steep spiral stairs, you can FACT FILE

Crystal Cities (0181-390 9900) offers weekend breaks. including two nights at Elizabeth Hotel, from £365 per person.

Quebec Tourism:

Reading: New Oxford Book af Canadian Short Stories in English by Margaret Atwood (OUP, £15, ISBN 0 1954) 025 4). In the Skin of a Lion by Michael Ondaatje (Pan. E5.99, ISBN 0 33030 1837). Canada the Rough Guide (£10.99, ISBN 1 85828 130 X). Ski Trails in the Canadian Rockies (Rocky

0171-930 9742.

see across the St Lawrence to the city, built on an island in the centre of the river.

Mouotain Books, £8.95, ISBN 0 92110 213 5).

Other musts on the walk include the magnificent Notre Dame Basilica at 110 Rue Notre-Dame west, once North America's largest re-ligious building, whose blue, vaulted ceiling dotted with gold stars might have been designed by Patrick Moore. Pointe-A-Callière, Mont-

real's Museum of Archeology and History is also along the dock area. The museum, built on the exact site where old Montreal was fouoded and completed with original 17th-century ruins, sports a multimedia show and virtual reality presentation to bring alive the city's past. The city - a financial and

cultural centre - is also a vast open-air gallery. Any new building or redevelopment is required by law to put aside a percentage of the cost to works of art so every bank and office sports a sculpture or carving.

Montreal is relatively compact and has a good underground system along Paris Metro lines. Lured by the brochures, I took a 15-minute

trip from the centre to the former Olympic village where a huge area has been transformed into the world's second-largest botanical gar-dens after Kew.

The gardens have drawn on designs from 30 countries and can be reached on foot or on a shuttle that meanders past flower beds, ponds and Japanese gardens complete with waterfalls, lakes, little bridges and a daily tea ceremony. Visitors were sitting in the sunshine, sipping wine and eating packed sushi lunches while oriental drummers beat out ancient rhythms.

Eating out in Montreal is bewildering so I cheated and turned to The Gazette, Montreal's English newspaper, where there was a daily restaurant review. The Ferreira Trattoria, a

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Portuguese eatery, at 1446 Peel Street, was given the thumbs up so I tried its giant seafood stew with coriander, garlic and wine in a clay pot. Its price is average for a smartish Montreal restaurant, at about £35 for two, but that's without wine or service charge - and wine can be expensive.

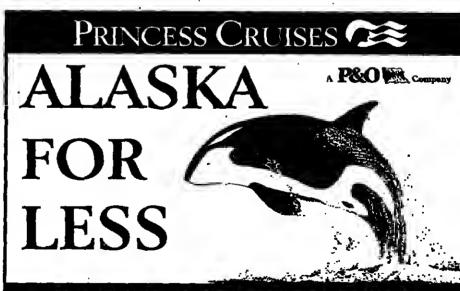
Those seeking a more bumble but not less adventurous meal might prefer Dunn's, a Jewish diner in the downtown shopping area, which is open 24 hours. Dunn's, and its nearby rival Ben's, are an abiding childhood memory of Lilly, my Quebecois sisterin-law. The staff at Dunn's serve giant, smoked-meat sandwiches and cheesecakes so rich that they are known locally as "heart attacks". A meal costs just £4.50.

Along Crescent Street there are some of the best bars and nightspots in Montreal. The Sir Winston Churchill Pub, like many in the area, has a happy hour. Locals spill on to the terraces for conversation late into the

NICK NUTTALL The author was a guest of



Montreal, as well as being a financial and cultural centre, is also an open-air gallery



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- 1						
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and the Canadian Yukon. Passes are available for 7. 14 and 21 nights, costing £669, £1,239 and £1,749 per person for car hire and B&B, between mid-May and mid-September. Flights to Anchorage can be arranged

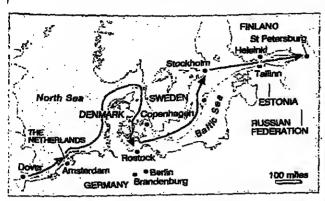
JILL CRAWSHAW

Fill

IFC 7

Cruising: From ship to shore, a trip on the Royal Viking Sun was a surprising and unparalleled delight

Promising: From ship to shore, a trip on the Royal Viking Sun was a surprise Please captain, can I have some more? Please captain, can I have some more?



he Royal Viking Sun is the ship which struck a reef in Egypt last spring. Judging by the way I was treated on one of the first cruises since being repaired, they seem to be doing everything possible to assure you it won't happen again.

I thought it was going to be like getting on an aeroplane, with all the hassle, discontinuous and agreet involved.

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IF YO City a

1 Yea

2 Yea

4 Yea

5 Yea

comfort and sweat involved in queuing to get your tickets processed — and lifting those cases on to the scale. Nothing like it. But we were welcomed into the almost empty terminal, complete with chandeliers, gilded staircase and smooth-as-silk lifts, and moments later we were already aboard. "Care for afternoon tea. sir? We're serving it, with finger sand-wiches, in the Norway lounge," said an attentive

And so it began - a trip of 14 days, visiting seven counmoving. Such a cruise is like staying at a top luxury hotel where everything is done for you — including the travel-ling. Who wants the bother of getting on and off trains and aeroplanes, if you can stay in an hotel that takes you from place to place while

This was my first cruise and I had to learn about the philosophy of being afloat. The passenger may always be right, but you have to trust them, the crew that is, to be

have stayed in some of the finest hotels in the world and have always met someone with some complaint because, I suspect, if you pay the sort of money charged for a room at, say, the Beau Rivage (my favourite landbased watering hole) in Lausanne, you're entitled to find of this cruise, we were all handed evaluation questionnaires. Comparing notes with others on board, few of us found very much to complain about, apart from a missing good-night chocolate or a bathrobe which took a bit longer to turn up than one might have hoped.

Actually, they don't allow

city breaks from

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you to have reason to complain. One morning. I thought my grapefruit juice was a little sour. The ship could have struck another reef for all the distress expressed by - and apologies received from - one of my

waiters (two per table).
A Berlitz Guide lists the Royal Viking Sun as the finest ship afloat; it has earned this accolade for the past eight years, ever since the film star James Stewart presided at its casting off. And it is easy to see why. No luxury escapes attention.

You want a bottle of champagne with your breakfast? Just tell them precisely what time and it will arrive duly chilled. Caviar with every meal? Well, of course. You'll pay extra for the champagne (and all other alcoholic drinks) but not the caviar. Any more than you pay extra for most of the amenities on board - from the fullyequipped gymnasium to the

The dining room is 110 yards long, but eating is no sprint every meal is a multicourse banquet. Then there's the library, the casino, the plush cinema showing different films three times a day, the Stella Polaris Lounge, which gives a 180degree panorama of the seascape outside, the Garden Room buffet, the select (as if, when a holiday could cost you £6.000 or more each, everything isn't select) Venetia Italian restaurant, two swimming pools, the health club, the deck tennis courts and the Norway Lounge, where every night there is either a floorshow to make Las Vegas producers blush or a classical concert or a comedian ready to make the

most sour-faced smile. The ship has its own television station. There is a magazine, The Skald; and the Royal Viking Sun Times, to keep you abreast of what is going on in the world - with a surprising and gratifying emphasis on British news.

There is, of course, also a hairdressing salon (you pay to use that) and a hospital with two intensive-care beds (here, your insurance com-



The Nevsky cathedral in Tallinn, Estonia is one of the magnificent places to visit on a cruise on the Royal Viking Sun. The ship spends more time in port than at sea

expect? You immediately recognised the new cruisers. They are the folks with ruddy achs but otherwise in rude health.

egulars are the pasty ones with what Julius Caesar would have called the lean and hungry look. They are bound to be because they have gone through a starvation regime in preparation for the two-week binge they know is coming.

In fact, you could use the whole time doing nothing but eating — without spending a penny more than the not-too-small fortune a cruise actually costs. Try this sort of regimen for size and see if you could survive it

Twenty-four hour cabin service, which means that if you can't get to sleep at dawn, there's absolutely no reason why you don't order a three-course meal to send you off at 4am. Breakfast

pany pays and if you didn't take insurance, you deserve the heart attack).

Perhaps the most interesting feature of cruising is the type of people — well-heeled, of course, middle-aged to older, natch. and mostly American (more than 400 of them out of the 600 or so on board). Well, what did you expect? You immediately record and the properties of the p when you go ashore for a little walk. And after you leave the main restaurant. eleventh floor (sorry, deck)

would be happy to fit you up with a small buffet. At that point, it would be advisable to take a walk around deck (four laps to the mile) which is good enough reason to feel entitled to sample the late riser's breakfast (more snacks, juices, rolls) in the Midnight Sun Lounge. That should keep you occupied until lunch. unless, in the meantime, you want a hot dog or hamburger from the swimming pool snack bar — a useful place, since it is only a couple of steps back to the Garden Room for the next buffet.

Nobody would then object to you having a "real" lunch in the dining room, with something like 26 different dishes to choose from - if you don't fancy the whole lot, that is.

Lunch finishes, inconveniently, at 2.30pm, which, unfortunately, means waiting an hour and half before afternoon tea - although the bar could fit you up with a snack if you haven't the energy to crawl to your cabin and sit on your own private veranda, watching the waves go by. (My wife was worried

about being seasick, but did not need the pills she brought. Stabilisers work.) Afternoon tea, with enough pastries to guarantee a place in the intensive-care wing, is a nice, leisurely way of preparing for dinner soon after seven — with a choice of a mere 14 courses. Time for another walk round deck, which means you can then settle down for a drink and

some nuts while you watch the evening show, which finishes in time to dance afterwards or go to one of the bars or perhaps the library or the "gentleman's club" for a snifter in readiness for the late-night buffet.

The excursions prove useful because you have to get out and walk Ours was not a typical cruise. On some, you can be in mid-ocean for days on end. We only had four days at sea, spread throughout the cruise. Usually, we sailed at night or in midafternoon. So on this cruise. there was time in Berlin to drive up the Unter den Linden and promenade around the Brandenburg Gate before taking off for the Olympic Stadium, and, later in the first week, to see just how beautiful Stockholm can be in summer.

ur ship always docked at a harbour. At every port of call - Amsterdam, Rostock in Germany. Stockholm, St Petersburg, Helsinki, Tallinn in Estonia, the island of Gotland (Sweden) and finally Copenhagen - there was a free shuttle service to take people into

The excursions, though, could be quite expensive. More than \$200 (£130) each for a day in Berlin, including a two-and-a-half hour, first-class train ride in both directions from Rostock (but don't worry, the hostesses provided by the ship come round with sandwiches) and more than \$150 (£100) for a day in St Petersburg.

Except for the man in Berlin (one Herr Reinhart, who seemed to be saying that he had ways of keeping us in order) the guides were su-perb and the one in St Petersburg achieved the impossible by managing to give a fairly good look at the Hermitage in most of its gilded glory, in just three hours. We left having seen the Rembrandts, the Impressionists, the throne of

Nicholas II, sculptures by Michelangelo, and the magnificence of what used to be the Winter Palace. We did not go totally unsatisfied. My wife is still eating herself up for missing an opportunity to see a performance by the stars of the Kirov Ballet at Catherine the Great's private

Hermitage theatre. And so it went on - for all the 14 days; the best attention, the fullest considof by the company, unless you feel you want to give something extra. I don't think I ever felt happier handing over the envelopes with a few words of gratifude and a selection of dollars to the waiters and cabin stewardess.

Without doubt, this was the finest hotel I have ever stayed in. And you know, when I walked round the swimming pool, I could swear the place was moving. But, then it could have been something I ate.

> MICHAEL FREEDLAND

 The author was on the Royal Viking Sun as a guest

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 25 DEMOPHOBE

(b) A person who has a morbid fear of crowds and massed homanity. The condition of most of us during the Christmas shopping festival, or when exposed to some hypertemple of shop-ping-and-shoving such as Brent Cross, if all the people who suffer from it were out logether in one place, they would not like it one little hit.

(a) A commoner or piebeian. A rare rhyme for voluptuary. "So glad you have gone into the estate agent racket now, Tanya, it always seemed to me you were suited for roptuarial work." BATTOLOGY

RUPTUARY

(b) The constant re-petition of the same words or phrases in speech or writing. A battologer is one who witters oo. It is the exact description of television commercials, sales char by sellers of Volvos and encyclopedias. encyclopedias. and homilies by spouses. GREGORY-POWDER

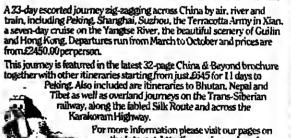
(a) A laxative powder. magnesium and ginger, invented by a Soutish doctor named Gregory, who died in 1822. "Manaman," you muratur appreciatively as you try the herbal powder your hostess has just sprinkled on your Gnoothi Fundadori. "Irs Powder, isn't it?

SUN SAILING FILE

CRUISES: The Royal Viking Sun has cruises throughout the year. The Jewels of the Baltic Cruise in July 1996 cost between £3,475 per person for an inside cabin and £13,250 per person in the owner's suite (14 nights on board). The 1997 world cruise is sold out. Bookings from travel agents or Cunard Line Ltd. Southampton, 01703 716500.

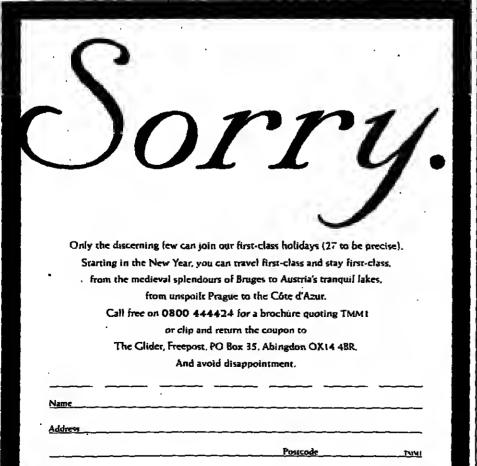
FACILITIES: The ship is registered in the Bahamas. Language on board is English and the dollar will buy anything. They also take banknotes, DRESS. On the two-week cruise dress was formal on four evenings (evening dress or dark suits). Requirements for the other nights are equally divided between informal (suits or sports jackets for men. dresses or trouser suits for women) and casual.

BOOKS TO READ: The Czar's Madman by Jaan Kross (Harvill, £8.99, ISBN 0 00271 201 6). Scandinavia and Baltic Europe on a Shoestring (Lonely Planet, £10.95, 1SBN 0 86442 251 2). Insight Guide Baltic States (£13.99. ISBN 9 62421 182 5).









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CRUISING

with a difference

France: Mayhem in the hotel and restaurant trade as prices rise

Too much room at the inn

The French hotel and restaurant industry is in dire straits because tourists, particularly the British, can no longer afford French prices. RICHARD BINNS, the author of French Leave Finesse. blames the arrogance of chefs, an overvalued franc and the country's politicians for selling the French soul to Europe.

lmost two years ago to the day I warned in The Times that the French Government's franc-fort policy had caused mayhem in the country's hotel and restaurant industry. Now, after numerous trips to France compiling French Leave Finesse, 1 find the country in a deeply unhappy, soul-searching mood. The air of depression in La belle France is overwhelming; and, today, the hotel and restaurant industry (the coun-try's largest, in terms of income and employees and its largest foreign currency earner) is in dire straits. Since 1980 I have talked and

listened to hundreds of chefs, restaurateurs and hoteliers throughout France. In the last year or so many have gone bust - including, for the first time since the accolade was created in 1931, two Michelin three-star chefs; for the remaining vast majority, profits are zero and survival has become a precarious business. The industry is in crisis. Without exception they all work like Trojans; to see them brought to their knees, through no fault of their own, fills me with the deepest gloom. Who is to blame? A two-word answer suffices: the politicians. A new presi-dent, Chirac, and a new prime minister, Juppé — both as hell-bent as their predecessors to be at the heart of the new European order with its single currency, social chapter and federal union — have brought no respite for the industry; indeed they have made matters worse.

What are the reasons for the industry's predicament? The trio of excessive TVA (VAT) charges of 20.6 per cent; high minimum wages (more than £600 per month); and Mont-Blanc-sized employers' social security taxes (more than 40 per cent on top of gross wages).

et another reason stands out - that wretched franc-fort policy. The franc is grossly overvalued: no wonder unemployment is so high and that far fewer Britons, Americans, Italians and Spaniards visit France. The strong currency and both higher direct and indirect taxes mean fewer francs in the pockets of foreign tourists and French consumers.

Two weeks ago I carried out a telephone poll of 54 hotels in my new guide — 5 per cent of the entries. I asked the owners to estimate the percentage decrease in the number of Britons visiting their establishments this year — just one of the many worries they all face. The average fall was a catastrophic 38 per cent.

To make matters worse, not one French chef, hotelier and restaurateur I spoke to during 1995/96 wanted to be part of the EU and all were deeply worried about the bleak future facing their industry.

Eating out in provincial France is in many ways much less enjoyable than the British equivalent: eclectic repertoires and a far greater variety are the big pluses here. Most French chefs are stuck in classical cooking translines; culinary styles from other parts of Europe and the globe have made almost zero impact on French cuisine. The words "eclectic", "cosmopolitan" and "liberation" mean little to most chefs. The real cause of this culinary constipation in France is the attitude of the French themselves. Their arrogance and insularity, in many things, is staggering. Talk to chefs, talk to restaurateurs, talk to sommeliers - those who



have travelled abroad will tell you what an impossible task they face in persuading their French clients to try foreign wines or dishes.

The pain facing my friends across the Channel will soon become even more acute when, next year, even fewer Britons holiday in France. Make no mistake, Le Shuttle and the P&O-Stena ferry operation will be increasing their prices: they must do to survive. Only one positive action will start French tills ringing again: if France pulled out of the ERM and devalued. There's no chance of Chirac and Juppé introducing such policies so, perhaps, the markets will do it for them — just as they did here in September 1992.

The problem besetting France's hotel and restaurant industry should be a salutary lesson for us all. Do we

really want to be part of the EU? Or am I right in thinking that "our Ken" has, at last, begun to see the light? I suggest that Kenneth Clarke is made French Finance Minister for

five minutes and is challenged to

introduce five one-a-minute policy changes to breathe instant life into the dead-on-its-feet French hotel and restaurant trade. Blustering generalisations, Clarke trademarks, would not be tolerated - just five certain-to-

work policy changes.

If the challenge is too taxing for Mr Clarke then I would be happy to propose five changes which I have been putting to numerous French hoteliers, restaurateurs and chefs during the past two years. All agreed that these measures would work and would welcome them with open arms. My changes would be:

Withdrawal from the ERM.

■ Devaluation of the franc by 10-15 per cent.

Cutting, savagely, French employers' social security taxes on gross wages from 40-50 per cent to 10 per

cent or less Cancel all minimum wage legislation.

■ Decrease TVA (VAT) from 20.6 per cent to 17.5 per cent. French restaurateurs and hoteliers only survive now by employing fewer staff and by taking more and more sbort cuts. Standards of service are lower than ever before. The five changes above are already in place in the UK: that's why British industry is prospering, and why unemployment is so much lower bere. They would also rejuvenate the French catering and hotel industry (and all French industry): the irony is that this would mean instant death for a single currency, the social chapter and federal union. Finally, in view of all the earlier invalidating evidence, why does Mr Clarke persist in his delusion that our best interests are linked to a single currency and a European Union?

 French Leave Finesse (Chiltern House, £9.99) by Richard Birms is a 416-page guide with 1,065 hotel and restaurant recommendations. It is available direct from him at 4 Waterside, The Moorings, Myton Road, Learnington Spa CV3t 3QA: no charge for postage.

JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

Flower power

FOUR tours have been added to Cox & King's (0171-873 5000) 18-strong 1997 Botany and Wildflower collection; the High Pyrenees and Ordesa National Park are the centres for its 15-day tour in July based at Formigal, which costs £1,295 fully inclusive. On an Il-day visit to the Austrian village of Obergurgl (also in July), holidaymakers should be able to see Alpine summer flowers, and spring flowers near the snow line.

Denver's Botanic Gar-dens, the new Hudson Gardens and wildflowers of the alpine tundra and Aspen woodlands are the lure on a 16-day American Colorado Rockies tour (£1,980 half-board) based on the old silver mining

town of Brekenridge.

Berween the Atlanuc and Pacific oceans, and the North and South American continents, Costa Rica's variety of habitats provide rich pastures for flora and fauna enthusiasts to enjoy on a 16-day November (1997) tour (£2,100 half-board). All tours, which include flights, are led by botanical experts.

Turkish time

IT IS hard to believe that with the Turkish coast's popularity there is still somewhere that offers "complete escapism". Yet that is what Simply Turkey [0181-747 1011] promises on Sovalye Island, in the 1930s a retreat for Fethiye's wealthy. A two-week apartment holiday costs from £352, including not only flights but use of a motor launch with boatman for trips to the mainland.

For those wanting to join in the life of a tiny but hospitable Turkisb village, two weeks in a traditional-style stone villa at Uzumlu costs from £471 with flights

and car hire.

A week's "Hidden Tur-key" tour in June that helps to give visitors an insight into Turkish custom, follows old caravan trails. studies kilim designs and attends greased wrestling matches. The tour costs £675 half-board.

Single parents

TO CATER for some of the 1.4 million one-parent families in the UK with children under 16, often at a disadvantage on package holidays on which child-ren's discounts are depen-dent on travelling with two adults, First Choice's (0161-745 4600) One Parent Family Deals are available for early bookers at specified family-friendly resorts. These offer child prices on

two children travelling

with only one adult. Not such a good deal on self-catering holidays perhaps, where families may have to fork out for underoccupancy supplements. In Majorca this can amount to £22.40 per night, but at the two-star Hotel Panorama Beach in Puerto Pollensa, a week's half-board in early April will cost £199 per adult, £99 for each child; in July £359 and £255 respectively.

Mini-cruise

BRITTANY Ferries (0990) 360360) has a return minicruise between Portsmouth or Plymouth and Santander in northern Spain for £49. The price includes a berth but no meals.

Good sport

THE 1997 Hong Kong Rugby Sevens between March 21 and 23, upgraded to the World Cup Sevens, will be the last before the Chinese takeover. David Dryer Sports Tours (0171-831 7799) has a four-night package to Hong Kong departing March 19, with flights and first class accommodation plus

match tickets (from £1,500). The company offers a range of sporting visits which can be tailor-made; they include Georgia v England at football (Nov 9, £275), the British Lions Rugby tour of South Africa (19 days covering all three matches, from £2,000, May 1997) and the Ryder Cup in Spain in September next year - not yet priced.

Ship shape

THE WORLD's first cruise ship over 100,000 tons, Carnival Destiny, is being launched in Venice on October 24, and will make her maiden voyage from Miami to the Caribbean in November. She is 892ft long, 12 decks high (taller than the Statue of Liberty) and bas a maximum canacity of 3.350 passengers. Details from Equity Cruises: 0171-729 1929.

Bigger fish

NGLING Travel (0)263 761602) is offering weekend courses on Izaak Walton's favourite Derbyshire river, the Dove, with John Bailey, angling expert and television presenter. The price of £259 includes three nights and some meals. The company specialises in journeys following the Big Ones - salmon in Russia, manseer in India and Nepal, pike and barbel in Europe, steelhead fishing in British Columbia, stur-

geon on the Caspian and

Arctic char in Greenland.

Grand tour

AN exhibition at the Tate Gallery (0171-887 8000), Grand Tour: The Lure of Italy in the 18th Century (10am-5.50pm, Mon-Sat, 2-5.50pm Sun, £6, concessions £3.50, until January 5) includes paintings, prints, drawings, sculp-tures, snuff boxes, fans and other objects from public and private collections around the world. "Holiday snapshots" are also on view as the 18th-century trippers posed for portraits against a backcloth of the Forum or the Colosseum to

prove "I am cultured". Although the Grand Tour took in several countries, the exhibition concentrates on Italy with its great cities Florence, Rome. Venice. Naples and Pal-ermo. To coincide with the exhibition, Magic of Italy (01233 211610) is offering a ten-day luxury coach tour between Rome, Florence, Venice and Verona for £999 to include flights, B&B accommodation, entrance lees and guides.

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Sea food

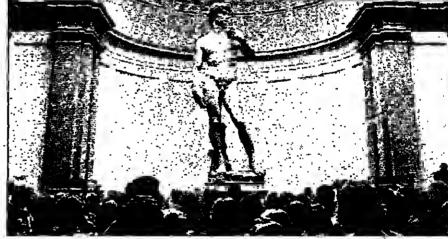
CRUISE food is usually memorable for quantity rather than quality, but next year it should be something special on the Solversea Cruises (0171-739 4029) series of culinary voyages in conjunction with the Cordon Bleu Academy, which focus on cookery demos, wine, and table presentations.

On a two-week spiceoriented cruise, the "Essence of the East" from Mombasa to Singapore starting this December, French perfumer Alain Voisot will lecture on famous scents and passengers can sample them. Prices from £3,222.

Correction

THE photograph used to illustrate our article on the grand tour of Italy last week was not of Amalfi, as described on the slide delivered to The Times, but of Positano. We regret that the error occurred.

 Kate Muir is ill. Insider's Guide to Paris will return



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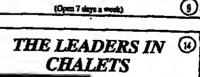
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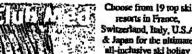
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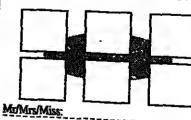


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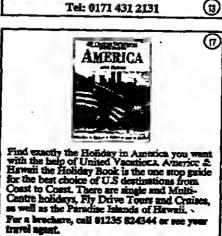
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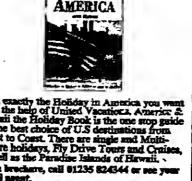
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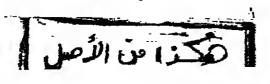
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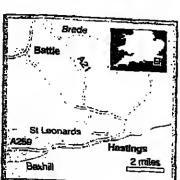




Britain: The bohemian delights of Hastings and a visit to the site where the action really took place in 1066

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Fishing for compliments

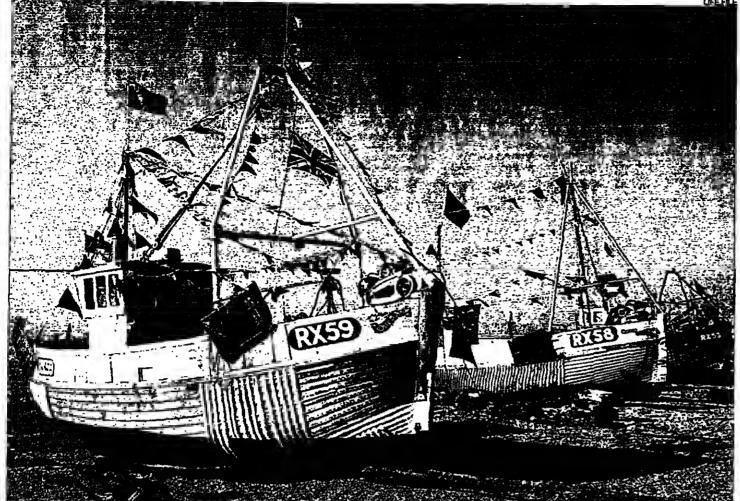


aga Holidays, operator to the maturer traveller, recently announced that they were reducing the number of English seaside re-sorts they parronised from 20 to four. Hastings was not one of the lucky four. In fact, it wasn't one of the previous 20. Saga dropped

Hastings years ago.
And yet if you have a taste for slightly raffish, dilapidated English seaside towns, then you should try Hastings. Its charms may be less obvious than those of old strumer like. old stalwarts like Bournemouth and Llandudno, but hunting them out is all part of the fun.

Some say that the town has been in decline ever since its medieval heyday as the most westward of the Cinque Ports. westward of the Unique Ports, until its rickety harbour was washed away by the Great Storm of 1287. During the 14th century it was repeatedly sacked by our French neighbours. But arguing a 700-year decline may be exaggerating the case a little. In fact, Hastings had something of a boom as a Victorian resort not as boom as a Victorian resort, not as sleepy as Eastbourne but not as brassy as Brighton.

The upshot of the decline is that property is unbelievably cheap. You can buy a two-bedroom, 18thcentury fisherman's cottage in the heart of the Old Town for about £30,000. The immediate effect of this has been to attract artists desperate for affordable studio space: and with them have come galleries, art shops, cafés, and all the indefinable raffish charm of la vie bohème. Something about Hastings has always attracted artists and poets. Charles Lamb, Rider Haggard, Coventry Patmore all lived here for a time. Dante Gabriel Rossetti and the doomed Lizzie Siddal were married here in 1860 in St Clements Church. Byron visited, and rather liked it. He wrote enthusiastically



Hastings is a genuine fishing port, one of the last places in England where fishermen still winch their boats up the shingle beach

to a friend: "I have been swimming and eating turbot, and smuggling neat brandies and silk handkerchiefs — and walking on cliffs, and tumbling down hills, and making the most of the dolce

Famous painters who have been inspired by Hastings include Turner, Peter de Wint and David Cox and, as with their present-day counterparts, it is the sea with its many changes of light, and the ramshackle shoreline, that have primarily attracted them. The museum is full of the kind of local topographical paintings usual in provincial muse-ums: artists quite unknown, but the paintings fascinating, especially those of pre-Victorian Hastings as an old fishing town, the boat-strewn beach looking

pretty much the same today. And indeed, the other great charm of Hastings is its foresbore. This is one of the last places in England where fishermen still winch their boats up the shingle beach on cables and capstans. And it is still genuine fishing port, from where local men put out in small wooden craft, and there isn't a deep-sea trawler or factory ship to

t the top of the beach stand the 43 surviving net shops, tall narrow buildings of blackpitched timber, used by fisher-men to dry their nets and mend their boats. In among the shops are stalls selling the freshest of fish, straight from the sea. The quality is excellent, and you can

have a plate of mussels, cockles and whelks for 45p. If eating out, you could try the Mermaid Cafe which last year was given four stars as "the best fish and chips on the South Coast" by no less a gastronome than Jonathan

FACT FILE

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Meades of The Times. The Old Town is a delight and has preserved its old buildings and charm without becoming prettified and anodyne. Many houses are still residential, not solicitors offices, and are riddled with secret passages and smug-glers' cellars.

In The Winter's Tale, Shakespeare notoriously appears to believe that Bohemia is by the sea. But of course, he may have been thinking of Hastings.

CHRISTOPHER HART

The delights of Battle

uch to the exasperation of the locals, who find themselves forever redirecting bewildered tourists, the Battle of Hastings did not take place at Hastings. It was fought eight miles up the old London road (A2001) at a place which, not a provisingly. surprisingly, was destined to become known as Battle.
The battle itself, 930 years ago

this week, was in fact far from a foregone conclusion. Three times on that day the Norman task force hurled itself up the steep slopes of Senlac Hill to be repulsed by the Saxon army of king Harold lining the ridge above. With dusk fast approaching, the elite knights of Duke William's cavalry spearheaded a desperate final effort. This time William had chosen to concentrate his attack directly against Harold's personal standard. But at the critical moment, with Harold wounded by an arrow, the royal banner began to re-treat. The morale of the Saxon army wavered. As the defensive shield wall finally broke, William's knights carved a bloody path forward. By 6.30pm one of the most important battles in English history had run its bloody course, though it had been a close-run thing with the 4,000 dead fairly evenly divided

between the sides.

Today the battlefield, and the buttermilk yellow stones of the Norman Abbey built to mark the site, belong to English Heritage. The latterday visitor can wander the slopes of Senlac Hill and relive it all, courtesy of the guided audio tour. For those with less time to spare, a ten-minute film loop (under cover close to the English Heritage shop) briefly outlines the story of the battle.

Although the abbey itself was largely demolished during Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries, the west range remains substantially intact. The impressive abbey gatehouse also remains, standing sentinel above the market town of Battle which grew up in its shadow.

The town itself exudes a predominantly Georgian ambience; although traces of earlier Tudor and medieval architecture are still in evidence. Even on a rainy autumn Sunday with the shops

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closed, the town has undercover attractions — the museum houses a life-size replica of part

of the Bayeux Tapestry.

An alternative experience of bygone ages is afforded by Buckley's Yesterday's World opposite the abbey gatehouse. Eschewing the Saxon/Norman theme which tends to dominate the area. Buckley's offers a glimpse into the more recent past. Here, meticulously setdressed rooms and streets span an era from the Victorians to the 1950s — there is even a complete
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and a splendid fudge factory.
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High Street, the Medieval
Almoury building houses a mod-

el of the town, a coffee shop and an award-winning garden. Dot-ted along the High Street and intersecting Mount Street, you can find a surprisingly cosmopolitan selection of pubs, inns, ed a be common the com

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The death of King Harold as shown in the Bayeux Tapestry

wine bars and eateries. These cater for most pockets and tastes, ranging from the Bonani Tandoori opposite the Almoury. to the quaint Bayeux Cottage tearooms in Mount Street.

DENISE GUEST

• For information about accommodation, restaurants and things to see around Battle. cootact the Tourist Information Centre (01424 773721). Denise and Ken Guest are

authors of British Battles: The Front Lines of History (Eoglish Heritage/HarperCollins, £19.99).

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staff, my job is to answer the telephone and tell you more about The Exacutive Club of St James's. I am chained to my deak from 10am to 8pm Mondays to Fridays. I am trained to select who we invite to visit our offices in London. I will willingly recommend other agencies, especially to people for whom we are not suitable.

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AM OFTEN asked what is the best way to start playing corres-

pondence chess. Correspondence

chess now has its own magazine.

Chess Mail, and its latest issue

claims that with fax or e-mail play.

the duration of a game by post that

might previously have lasted up to

five years, can now be cut by a factor of four or five. This week's game is by Jonathan Penrose, ten

times British over-the-board cham-

pion and now number two on the

world correspondence ranking list.

White: Jonathao Penrose: Black:

13th Correspondence World Ch.

The opening has been a sharp version of the Scandinavian or Centre Counter Defence, in which

Black has sacrificed pawn struc-

ture and king safety in order to go

for material gain. It has proved

quite popular in recent over-the-

board and correspondence games.

This position was still theory and

the obvious to Qxf7+ had been

played in a number of corres-

pondence games. However, after 16

axdl Bxc3. White's attack appears

A forceful innovation which keeps

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Bagirov - Holmov, Baku 1961. A strong player would immediately recognise the dangers here for White.

His queen is unprotected and his rook is defended only by the

queen. What is the key move that

Send your answers on a postcard

London El 9XN. The first three

destroys this fragile structure?

missing material.

Black's king insecure.

sufficient to compensate for the

Kc8 17 Bf4 Nd7 18 Rad1 Bxd1 19

Nt3 Be2 Nc3 cxd5

13 Bb5+ c6 15 dxc6+ bxc6

Richard Goldenberg

Scandinavian Defence

Nxd5 Nb6 e6 exd5

e4 d4 c4 0-0 d5 Od4

CHESS

by Raymond Keene

17 bxc3 19 Cbd3 21 Rad1

f6 Ke7

axb6+ axb6 B14+ Kb7

Od6 23 a5 axb6 25 g3 Kb7 27 Rd3 Rad8 29 h4

White's strategy from now on is

based on a gradual siege of this weak pawn. However, 29 ... Nc7 is

even worse since 30 Oxc6+ Kxc6 31

Rxd7 Rxd7 32 Rxd7 Kxd7 33 Bxc7

Kxc7 34 g4 Kd6 35 f4 leads to a

winning king and pawn ending for

A piquant situation. Black is threat-

ening male in one and all White's

pieces are under attack, but

Penrose has foreseen a brilliant

final coup which achieves a win-

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WINNING MOVE

40 Rd8+ Kxd8 41 Od6+ Kc8 42 Oxf4 Bisck resigns

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ning endgame.

31 Rd4 33 Cf5 35 Cxh5 37 Qg6 39 Rxd7+

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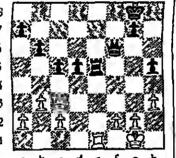
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correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer

Last week's winners: T G Varga, Valley, Anglesey; K Griffith, London SEIO; H O Dovey, Thet-

will be published next Saturday. Last week's solution: 1 Qxh5+

from Westminster Libraries. Sherlock Holmes Collection. An elegant move which ensures the recovery of his sacrificed piece, due Marylebone Library.) to the various pins in the centre. White threatens 23 a5, undermining the protection of Black's knight, while if 22 ... bxa4 23 c4 wins the knight immediately.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption from those submitted.

READERS are invited to

The Strand Magazine

write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from

(reproduced with permission

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption (22). Weekend Games Page. The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, October 23.





[مكذا من الأصل

PUNCHLINE

We was just starting the tarmac when the anti-roads protesters threw us in the pitch barrel" The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Jeremy Rapson of Tiverton, Devon

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard
DEMOPHOBE

a. A scarectow b. Dread of crowds

c. A megaphone RUPTUARY

a. A commoner b. Gut-busting

c. A tax on travel BATTOLOGY

a. The study of bats b. Repetidon c. The science of surds

GREGORY-POWDER a. A laxative b. A high explosive c. Hasty departure

Answers on page 20

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

THE 1996 World Olympiad starts tomorrow, in Rhodes. There are 72 nations in the Open, and 44 in the Women's event. In each event the teams are divided into two pools, who play a complete round-robin lasting nine days. The leading four teams in each pool go into a knock-out phase taking a further four days.

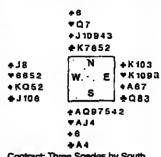
The stars of the British wom en's team are Pat Davies and Nicola Smith. They have been European and World Champions on several occasions, but have never won an Olympiad. Liz McGowan. Heather Dhondy, Beryl Kerr and Roberta Trayman are less experienced, but two of them were in the learn that was close to a place in the last eight in the 1995 Venice Cup (the women's world championship). In their group the three strongest teams are Canada, Germany and China. Britain may well find themselves fighting it out with Sweden, South Africa and Den-

mark for the fourth spot. The British Open team is led by Tony Forrester and Andrew Robson, a world-class pair. The second pair are the twins Jason and Justin Hackett, current Junior world champions. They will be invaluable in extracting the maximum from the weaker teams in the round-robin, but may at the moment be lacking in experience should the team get to the knockout stage.

in Tony Priday the team has an exellent captain, Iron hand in velvet glove is his style. The main problem for the learn will be stamina, as the third pair, Paul Hackett (the twins' father) and lan Monachan, will probably

play less than their share of the boards. It is a notable feat by the Hacketts — the first time three members of the same family have been in a bridge team for a world

lan Monachan found a better play than his Icelandic opponent, in a recent friendly international.



Contract: Three Spades by South, Lead: jack of clubs

It appears that you have one entry to dummy in your Three Spades contract. Would you use it to finesse hearts, or spades? The lcelandic former world champion won the first trick with the king of clubs and led the queen of hearts. When this was covered he won in hand and played two more rounds of hearts, ruffing the third in dummy. He eventually took ten tricks.

Monachan played a low heart to the jack at trick two. When that held, he played as at the other table. But you see the improvement - if the jack loses to the king, it creates another entry in dummy to finesse the spades.

There will be daily reports of the Olympiad in the bridge column in the Times Sports section.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

arrive in clump form, in ONLY the Japanese could have others single strings dangle down provocatively and a come up with Bust a Move 2, a frothy graphic game for Play-Station and Saturn consoles. In its heart are clear, coloured bubbles as tightly packed as This is the perfect title for

anyone who has ever found themselves addicted to popping plastic bubble-wrap to relieve tension. You must clear all the transparent bubbles nestling to-gether at the top of the arena, by aiming and firing yet more bubbles at them. Connect three or more of the same colour and the clusters burst. Bonus bubbles also lurk. hitting these brings other rewards.

To trigger many beads of perspiration, it's all played against the clock. The overbanging mass of bubbles is slowly descending and you lose should a single blister hit the bottom. Moreover, fired bubbles travel in straight lines only, but can also bounce off sidewalls to reach awkward crannies. From Japan's Taito Corporation and released here by Ac-claim, in one-player mode, the

well-aimed shot takes out the lot. Two-player mode offers less trickery but is just as addictive - clear four or more bubbles at once and they pass over to your opponent's arena.
The original Bust a Move passed me by, but I hope subsequent editions will offer many more options. Bust a Move 2 is an oriental

delight - ultra-efficient with vivid graphics, chirpy little characters and music which bounces along beautifully. Now we pop back to entries for Cyberspace Twenty-Six, in which you were asked to come up with a game or multimedia

experience you would attempt to make should you win one of our ten Scala MM100 Multimedia authoring kits, each worth £150. Paul Mutton, of Ashford, Kent,

dreamt up an event exploring watery whys and wherefores. He says: "It would detail how to create and maintain a garden pond and its wildlife. The presentation would illustrate key THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

by Tim Wapshott



Bust a Move 2 is an oriental delight with vivid graphics and characters

points at the click of a button and a cartoon-style character called Mr Fishy is the interactive guide. A question and answer section focuses on the common problems

of running a pond."

Michael Dnes of Nottingham came up with Shipwreck, "a game of strategy and persistence". He wrote: "You start out with 20 others, shipwrecked on

an island and looking for food, shelter and help. Gradually you build up a community which, the more it advances, starts producing buildings, weapons and luxuries. In the end, you could have a fully functioning city with schools, armed forces, hospitals and police.

game there are extra features such as submarines, radio stations and desalination plants. Play well enough and you get your chance to be rescued — unless you decide to stay because you have built Paradise," Different skill levels at the start of the game see you set out as one of a group sharing a lifeboat or the shipwreck's sole survivor.

Towards the end of the

Kevin Sartain from Liverpool has cooked up an idea much less violent than its title. In Deliverance the emphasis is on delivery. He says: "You are Kris Kurrier. Using your redundancy cheque you set up your own delivery business. How you spend the money is all part of the important strategy element. You could buy or rent expensive

premises in the centre of town, but that would leave you with just enough to buy a bicycle. Take cheaper premises on the outskirts of town and you could be left with enough to get a scooter. Next you need to decide what

kind of jobs you want to take, Should it be the relatively easy, low-paid local jobs or the highrisk, high-payout alternatives? Whichever you opt for, should you fail to meet a delivery deadline you will be heavily penalised and have to compensate your unsatisfied cus-tomers. The arcade side of the game is the actual delivery of packages. The shortest route is not always the quickest because speed cops, roadworks and de-tours all cause delay," he says. Keep on course by trading in

the black, and Deliverance soon showers players with profits to spend on expansion, streamlining, advertising and vehicle upgrades. Eventually your venture could grow into a multinational big enough to downsize.
 "If you stay here much longer

you will go back with slitty eyes." Duke of Edinburgh to English students in China, ten years ago today (1986).

No 917

DOWN

t Burden (4)

The same again (5)

Stout (offensive) stick (6)

6 Think: bounce back (7)

7 Female pummeiler (8)

8 Little stone particles (4)

14 Duchess of Malfi play-

16 Prompt, stimulate (7)

19 Sweetly pretty (4)

mender (5)

3 February 29 (4.3)

t2 To manacle (8)

wright (7)

17 Conquer to)

- **ACROSS** t Good fortune personified
- (4.41)5 Be very full (of liquid) (4) 9 William-Morris-inspired
- movement (4.3.0) 10 Praiseworthy (4)
- 11 Way-out (7) 13 Without exception (e)
- 15 Unnatural fixed grin (6) 18 Disastrous failure, rout (7)
- 20 Strongbox (4)
- 23 Very topical (2-2-3-6)
- 24 Violent rage (4)
- 21 Instrument; MND bellows-25 Sloping the most sharply (S) 22 Immediately succeeding (4)

ACROSS: 7 Let one have it 9 Obviate 10 Woman 11 Sore SOLUTION TO NO 916 12 Stiletto 15 Specific 17 Reef 19 Ellis 2t Troilus 22 Chinerlings DOWN: 1 Perverse, 2 Jonah 3 Detest 4 Carwalk 5 Perm 6 Stand-offish 8 Consistency 13 Theology 14 Hirsute 16 In rum

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TIMES COMPUTER URBINSWORDS by David Akenhead — QNLY \$10.25 per tille TIMES COMPUTER URBINSWORDS by David Akenhead — QNLY \$10.25 per tille size. VAT teirce of crosswords geath, For IBM MS-DQS and Acom RISCOS PCs. Range methods. Times Consonords (Patition 1938s) The Standay Times tules various 30). Two Standers. The Times Judice Edition 1938s; The Standay Times tules various 30). Two Standers. The Times Judice Edition 1938s; The Standay Times tules various 30). AND (NTRODUCTINE). The Times Crosswords. Send cheques with order Times. Crosswords of (1400 12): Times Crosswords. Send cheques with order Times. Crosswords of (1400 12): Times Crosswords. Send cheques with order Times Crosswords. Name Land Standard Land Conservation Self-SQW. Return Delivery (US). Telephology Self-Square Landon Self-SQW. Return Delivery (US).

No 3380: Syndicate VIII by Piccadilly

3 TENT

5 VC

4 S+T+A+V+E

6 S+E+A+T

7 CESSE

8 DICE

15 SEAT

17 CASE

23 IT + ETC

25 ASSESS

34 A+V+I+A+N

36 SIT-SAY

37 TINT

38 END

41 ANNE

35 D+E+S+C+A+N+T

26 EAN

29 SISS

31 VE

32 JD

22 YC

24 EA

19 D to the power of E

EIGHT MEMBERS of a National Lottery syndicate each choose six of the available numbers (from 01 to 49), and these selections are to appear in the first, fifth, eighth and twelfth rows and the third, fifth, eighth and tenth columns of the grid. Their selections of numbers include all but one of those avail-

The ten different letters in the title each stand for a different number between I and 49 inclusive, the letter/number correspondences to be determined by the solver. Clues conform to normal algebraic notation, and no clued solution begins with a zero.

reveal the winning numbers drawn in the Lottery. Two members of the syndicate had each chosen three of the winning numbers. The winners chose their lottery numbers by using their names and dates of birth (eg SID 14.01.49), letter/ number correspondences being the same as those used in the clues. Solvers should enter the names and dates of birth of the winners under the grid.

ACROSS 9 S1C

10 C to the power of 4 II IN

45 S+A+S+S+Y 46 SENT+EASE 47 YET 48 DEC 50 DIES 52 NY DOWN 1 7777

12 CEDE

20 CAS-E

26 IT

40 1E

42 S+A+D

43 SAD

27 EASY

VAC

33 SEE+TESS

30 CANE

21 SEES+SECT

14 ST

DIS

16 T to the power of E

17 A to the power of E

31 N to the power of E

38 D+E+S+T+I+N+Y

39 C to the power of S

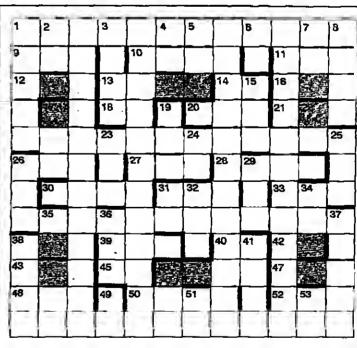
18 C+A+N+D+I+E+S

2 D+A+N+C+E+S

44 CEASE 46 IS+TEA 49 N+A+T+T+Y '5! · S+A+Y+S 53 D+I+N+E

Solution to No 3377: Morning Service by Nibor Notes to solution The instruction in the completed diagram (appropriately in the shape of a cross), reading downwards from 9 and across from 12, spelt Look at third letter of clues. The third letters. when read 'selectively' (ie only using the 28 clues with redundant words) spelt: Sum letters italicised headings (in the Order of Service) bidding prayer etc. Taking A-1, B-2... Z-26, the sum of the letters gave the numbers to be inserted in the small diagram. The sum of the digits for each psalm-hymn (in ascending size) was confirmed by the asterisked clue numbers.

The winner is Stephanie Perks of Maypole, Birmingham. The two runners-up are R.J. Hooper of London and Mrs M.E. Taylor of Rugeley. Staffordshire.



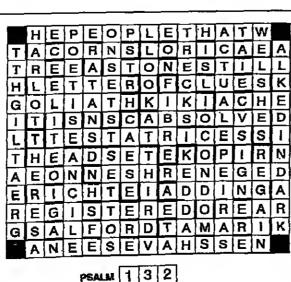
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Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3380, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, October 31.

The winner will receive: The Cambridge Encyclopedia, the most up-to-date and comprehensive one-volume encyclopedia available, with more than 36,000 entries: available, with more than 36,000 entries: The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language, a highly illustrated formal embracing every aspect of the English language in one volume; and The Cambridge Guide to Literature, covering all the leading writers and movements in literature written in English up to the present. Two runners-up will receive The Cambridge Guide to Literature.



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FLORA BRITANNICA: THE GLAMOROUS AND THE EXQUISITE

In the concluding part of his definitive guide to Britain's wild beauty, **RICHARD MABEY** celebrates our flowering stars, from the rose to the orchid

THE SNAKE'S-HEAD frit-illary is one of the most darkly glamorous and one of the most well known of British flowers. Across southern and middle England, a flamboyant suite of local names — snake's-head in Oxfordshire, leper's lily in Somerset, shy widow in Warwickshire — suggested a flower that was once wide-spread and familiar. The namers had seen those dusky, reptilian bells, with their chequered patches of mulberry and lilac over-lapping like scales. Even up to the 1930s the fritillary grew in its thousands in more than a hundred lokm squares. It was florid, pro-fuse, extraordinary, in-

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tensely local. Yet the first official record of a wild fritillary in England was not made until 1736. In the two and a half centuries since that first "discovery", the fritillary has come and gone with frightening speed, its distribution savagely cut, by agricultural drainage and development, from 27 counties before the last war to roughly the same number of individual meadows today.

The best known fritillary site in England is probably Magdalen College Meadow in Oxford, where in late April the entire northeastern half of the meadow seems to be covered by a tremulous purple haze. Yet, curiously for a university city devoted to scholarship and science. this spectacular display just a few hundred yards from the oldest botanic garden in Britain was not recorded by botanists until 1785. It is just colony was an introduction from another, more convincingly wild, Oxfordshire site. About six miles west of the city is the village of Ducklington, in the Windrush Valley. This has long had fritillaries growing in its low-lying meadow, and in the 18th century the living of its church was under the patronage of Magdalen College. It has been suggested that an incumbent at Duck-

his college to plant. The celebration of the flower, including the holding of a Fritillary Sunday, when flowers can be picked (or simply admired) in re-turn for collections for charines, has been going on in many sites for at least a

lington may have taken a fancy to the flowers and carried some bulbs back to

Snake's-heads survive on the Duke of Wellington's estate at Stratick! Saye. These meadows are still open to the public fust for looking) when the fritillaries are in flower. To the east of Oxford, one of the largest and most famous Fritillary Sunday sites was in Dinton,



The rare pasqueflower - anemone of Passiontide

PASQUEFLOWER

ONE OF THE most beautiful of our native flowers is the ONE OF THE most beautiful of our native flowers is the Pasqueflower, now a nationally scarce plant. Its purple petals, held in the shape of a bell, surround a tuft of yellow stamens and are cushioned on greyish, feathery leafage. It blooms around Eastertime — hence the name "Pasque", meaning (like paschal) of Easter, its largest colony is on the steep banks of Barnsley Warren in the Cotswolds and it continues to grow in some quantity at Barnack, in the old stone quarry known as the Hills and Holes.

near Ford, Buckingham-shire. The first surgestion that there were friction in the area appears on a privately commissioned map, dated 1803, showing a plot labelled "Frogcup Meadow". Frogcup Meadow was ploughed up in the early



The snake's head fritillary has a suite of local names

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1950s, but a few fritillaries have clung on in a strip of damp commonland between the old meadow and the lane to Aston Mullins, I found three blooms in mid-April 1993, and met two local men who confirmed that several locals had taken bulbs before the meadow was destroyed. To see fritillaries in im-

mense abundance, you must go to North Meadow, in the Thames Valley at Cricklade, Wiltshire, where in a good year there may be several million in flower. In 1978, a television reporter considered making a programme about this rare plant but when he discovered how many grew at North Meadow, he lost interest. How could a plant growing with millions of its own kind be described as rare?

THE WILD ROSE is among

our best loved and most familiar flowers and the rose is England's national flower, but none of the likely can-didates for this homographe position is a native species. The Red Rose of Lancaster is the Mediterranean Rosa gallica, the White Rose of York almost certainly a hy-brid between the native fieldrose, R.arvensis, and the damask rose R. x damascena. Even the heraldic roses carved on churches and memorials throughout the land are modelled more on the Holy Rose of Abyssinia (R.richardii), the oldest of all cultivated roses and figured in paintings on the murals at Knossos in Crete, than on any indigenous briar.

There are 14 species cur-rently accepted as native to Britain and three of these have played a modest part in the evolution of various groups of cultivated rose.

The dog rose is the most abundant and widespread species. The sweet-scented blooms vary in colour from deep pink to white and it has produced a small number of cultivated varieties, the best known of which is 'Abbotswood', which has scented, double, pink flowers. The field-rose always has pure white flowers, with conspicuous golden anthers, and a musky, honey scent. It is the ancestor of the Ayrshire roses, now very rare in cultivation. It is surprising that the harsh downy-rose has not been taken into cultivation at all as it is a beautiful and subtle rose with downy leaves and deep pink, velvety petals.

Burnet rose, a low-grow-ing species, largely confined to dry sandy places near the sea and to calcareous areas inland, has the sweetest smell of any native rose - a mixture of honey and jas-mine. It has white flowers, frequently tinged with cream (or more rarely with pink), prominent golden stamens, and the leaves are small and oval, very like those of salad burnet (hence the name).

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Like rare and exotic insects



admongn this is true of some species, others are proving themselves highly adaptable and capable of moving into the most improbable habitats. Many orchids produce enormous quantities of exceptionally quantities of exceptionally lightweight seed, which can be blown long distances. These days this often fetches up on artificially open habitats, low in nutrients and free of competition (quarries, for example), which replicate orchid-rich natural habitats such as sand dunes and cliff tops. It is this paradoxical, opportunistic quality of many orchids — the exquisite bloom transforming the lime-rich waste tip — that has become the basis for the modern myth of the family, a botanical version of Beauty and the Beast,

One orchid that is genu-inely rare and now reduced to a single, heavily guarded site in Yantrbire is the lady's slipper. Collectors have played a role in its decline, though it was probably ably never a common plant in Britain. It formerly grew wild in open woods on the Pennine limestones, from Derbyshire to Cumberland and Durham.

The remarkable flowers claret-coloured petals crowning a large, bright yellow pouch, rather like a garden calceolaria - make the lady's slipper the only native orchid that plainly belongs to the same group as the tropical species sold by florists. The flowers most frequently mistaken for this rare prodigy by non-botanists are the gaudy but not dissimilarly shaped blooms that impetuous im-

migrant, the Indian balsam. The story of the military orchid's decline, fall and subsequent resurrection in England could be a parable for the fortunes of all our wild flowers. Up to the 19th century it had been comparatively widespread in the chalk country of southern England. "Souldiers Cullions" as John Gerard called it (literally, "soldiers' testicles"), is a plant of the warm south, on the edge of its range in Britain. Some years it would flower, other years not even appear above ground, and during the cool summers of the second half of the 19th century it began to disappear.

By about 1914 it seems to have been extinct. For the next 30 years the orchid was not seen, or at least not reported. But the possibility that an isolated specimen of this handsome flower - it is a little like a compact lady orchid might be blooming in some remote corner of the Chiltern Hills turned searching for lost Soldiers into an insatiable quest for some orchid lovers (and probably some collectors, too).

In the end, the military orchid was found again almost by chance. The botanist J E Lousley had gone to

the southern Chilterns in May 1947 ostensibly for a picnic. But, as he put it, 'l selected our stopping places on the chalk with some care, and naturally wandered off to see what I could find. To my delight I stumbled on the orchid just coming into flower." But he never made the location of his find public. It was not until the 1960s that the colony (or possibly another in the same region) was refound in Buckinghamshire. The site was Homefield Wood near Marlow and was an-nounced by a coded telegram from its discoverers: The soldiers are safe in their home field.

In 1975, the naturalists

Le state of the st

Role 11

trust that managed the site decided to go public and announced the orchid's return amid high security and not a little melodrama. I wrote at the time: "This time local naturalists took steps to ensure that it would not vanish again because of any human agency by setting an electric lence around it. There were rumours of round-the-clock watches and of a warden who carried a shotgun with his sandwiches ... When the press was finally told about the return of this prodigal to an idyllic woodland glade only 50 miles from London, it knew it had a story...
More people must have seen the rather smudgy black-and-white picture of Orchis militaris the following morning than had seeo the plant in its whole history in this country."

This overprotective doned at the end of the 1980s. A summer warden was installed at Homefield Wood and the general public welcomed. The population has grown to more than 50 plants (with more than 20 flowering in 1993), and thousands of people have seen them and the 11 other species of orchid that

grow close by.

The only fencing seen these days is to protect the plants from trampling and rabbit-grazing. And, since no pollinating insect has yet been firmly identified, visitors in May can witness a touching act of symbiosis between orchid-lovers and needy plants: the voluntary wardens, on their knees, delicately extracting pollen from the flowers with proboscis-like stalks of grass, and ferrying it to

other clumps. The first sight of the beautiful and exotic bee orchid is an experience few flower-lovers ever forget. There is nothing quite like the sculptured oddity of the blooms, perched like pink-winged bumblebees on the stalk (the brown "body" is even furry to the touch). Yet bee orchids sometimes behave like rampant weeds. They appear in huge num-bers on disturbed chalk soils, linger for a few years and then vanish. Large pop-ulations have exploded like this on, for example, a roundabout near Hitchin. Hertfordshire; shingle banks bordering the Telephone Exchange car park in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire; and at old limestone quarries near Work-

sop, Nottinghamshire. The bee orchid flower is believed to have evolved originally as a decoy, to trick real bees into attempt to mate with successive flowers and so help with pollen transfer. But this has never been reliably ob-served, and in Britain the flowers are self-pollinating.

Service,



a roundabout near Hitchin, and on shingle banks by a car park in Milton Keynes

There are many other foreign rose species and cul-tivars which have naturalised from gardens. A few have been thought lost, but have then been rediscovered. The most celebrated is the deep-coloured Victorian rose that was found scrambling up the wall of Woolverstone Church in Suffolk by the late Humphrey Brooke, an eccentric but distinguished rosarian. The bush was more than 100 years old but still flowering. Brooke thought it bad the strongest scent of any rose he knew and once recounted to me how a blind friend had "put his nose in a bloom and said that if this scent was avail-able in a bottle it would put every tart in Europe out of business". The Woolverstone Church rose is now back on the market as 'Surpassing Beauty of Woolverstone'.

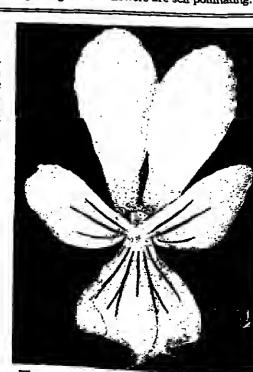
This variant can be seen in Scotland: deep purple with vivid yellow around the "eye"

PANSIES

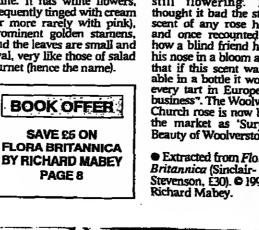
THE exquisite flowers of the mountain pansy, normally pale yellow, are held on stiff stalks that seem to spring straight from the turf. On hill pastures you may see acres of them shiver-ing in the wind. The plant has de-

clined in many places because of agricul-tural pressure but is, in general, a resilient plant which enjoys soils with a high mineral content.

It is highly variable in colour and form. Many of the Scottish colonies are entirely purple, save for some yellow streaking around the "eye". A magnificent form of this - deep purple and at least an inch across - grows on



The mountain pansy may be a pale yellow or, as pictured here, almost white in colour





Extracted from Flora

Stevenson, £30). © 1996

Tycoon to seek top colony job

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hong Koog: Tung Chee-hwa, to be China's favourite to lead Hong Kong after the British colony reverts to Peking rule next year, formally declared his candidacy yesterday.

To underscore his commisment, the Shanghai-born Mr Tung also resigned as chair-(International), the shipping empire he inherited from his father. (AP)

Football rites

Guatemala City: Guatemalans have begun preparations for burying the first of up to 82 football fans crushed by an avalanche of bodies at a World Cup qualifying match against Costa Rica. (Reuter)

Taipei rioting

Taipei: Taiwan's divided parliament voted to restore funding for a stonewalled nuclear power plant, sparking riots in one of the worst outbreaks of unrest in the fledgeling democracy. (Reuter)

Thief's hit list

Greenwich, Connecticut: A burglar suspected of stealing millions of dollars in silver from Bruce Springsteen, Ivana Trump and others was arrested carrying a directory of the rich and famous. (AP)

Mass amnesty

Phnom Penh: King Norodom Sihanouk granted an amnesty to nearly all Cambodia's prisoners. The King said he wanted to be fair after pardoning notorious Khmer Rouge guerrillas. (AP)

Cult confusion

Tokyo: Shoko Asahara, the Japanese cult guru on trial over last year's subway gas attack, threw the court into confusion by admitting culpability and then declaring his innocence. (Reuter)

Phone boxing

Colmar: A couple found exchanging blows in a French phone box in the middle of the night were arrested by patrolling police and later ordered to do community service, a police spokesman said. (AFP)

Sacked security chief predicts 'hot autumn' as officer corps challenges Kremlin * Lebed backing for army unrest forced President's hand

IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's decision to sack General Aleksandr Lebed was taken after growing signs that his unruly security adviser was deliberately stirring up dissent in the armed forces, which could have led to a military insurrection as early as next week.

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Reviewing the troubled relationship between the Russian leader and the former paratroop general, it is clear that in the days leading up to his dismissal General Lebed was siding with the security forces against the Kremlin.

As recently as last month he gave a warning that the army could "mutiny" this autumn unless the military were paid their salaries due from August and were properly equipped. At the time his remarks were dismissed by many in the Yeltsin team as further examples of alarmist rhetoric.

But by the beginning of this week they sat up and took notice when General Lebed returned to Tula, his parliamentary constituency. His presence there was disturbing since he was seen publicly endorsing General Aleksandr

COUP FEAR

Korzhakov, President Yeltsin's disgraced former bodyguard, who is planning to succeed General Lebed in the seat. The prospect of an alliance

between the two men, one with strong links to the army, the other closely fied to the security services, worried the Russian leader, who mentioned the pact as a reason for sacking General Lebed.

Then on Tuesday the gruff Afghan war veteran gave an extraordinary speech to the Airborne Forces Military Council, at which he attacked the Government for its failure to support the army and even savaged his own former ally. General Igor Rodionov, the Defence Minister. The paratroop officers reportedly responded to the anu-government speech enthusiastically and when General Lebed prepared to leave he was given a standing ovation by soldiers.

The incident so upset the authorities that Mr Yeltsin later sacked Major-General Vladimir Kazantsev, the deputy commander of the paratroops who criticised proposed Role model who forged a nation

through intrigue and slaughter

1533 to 1584, was known as Grozny or "the Terrible". By

establishing the oprichnina -

the forerunner of Russian

security agencies — he was able to set aside whole prov-

inces for his private will and

domain, and to unleash a

By razing Novgorod, and

reign of unrestrained terror.

slaughtering its entire popula-

tion in a bloodbath that pro-

ceeded for weeks, he affirmed

Moscow's supremacy in Rus-

The next day General Ana-toli Kulikov, the Interior Minster whose feud with General Lebed sparked the current crisis, spoke of a "creeping coup" and accused the National Security Adviser of aitempting to form a private army of 50,000 troops called the "Russian Legion"

Although the truth behind the allegations is still unclear. the next day the threat of a far more real military uprising surfaced in the daily Nezavisimaya Gazeta. The paper published a letter by officers serving on the General Staff: it gave a warning that unless their salaries were paid by October 25 the Kremlin lead-ership would do well to leave the country. "We have enough force to make these gentlemen [in the Kremlin] abandon their plans to weaken Russial," the letter said. General Lebed was not

named in the document, but he did not attempt to distance himself from it, and even brandished a copy of the letter at his press conference after his sacking. "We are heading for a very hot autumn," he said. "I think this [crisis] will start on October 25, as can be

TERRIBLE

ing the first Patriarch of

Moscow he completed the

separate and dependent na-

ture of the Russian Orthodox

Church, henceforth severed

from all outside influences. By

annexing the khanate of Ka-

zan, where the great Orthodox

Cathedral of the Annunciation

was raised to a Christian



General Aleksandr Lebed during an interview with a German news magazine in Moscow yesterday

Chorus of rivals hails dismissal

BY RICHARD BEESTON

RUSSIAN leaders gave a rare display of unity yesterday, when politicians from across the spectrum praised President Yeltsin for dismissing General Aleksandr

مكذا من الأصل

Lebed, the National Security Adviser. "Lebed reconciled me with the present Government because I suddenly quite clearly saw what a frightening face the other could have," said Stanislav Govorukhin, the leader of the left-wing People's Power faction, which normally opposes the administration. His view was echoed by Gennadi Zyuganov, the Com-munist Party head, and Vladimir Zhirinovsky, leader of the ultra-nationalist Liberal Democratic Party, who lost millions of voters to General Lebed in last

Other potential rivals for the presiden-

UNITED FRONT Luzhkov, the powerful Mayor of Moscow,

said the decision to sack the unruly general should have been taken long ago. Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, said he looked forward to the appointment of a new security chief as early as next week.

In a display of solidarity with President feltsin, legislators rejected overwhelmingly a motion calling for the removal of neral Anatoli Kulikov, the Interior Minister, whose feud with General Lebed prompted his dismissal. The former security chief remained oblivious to the invective yesterday and joked that he planned to attend a production of Aleksei Tolstoy's Ivan the Terrible, the 16thcentury Russian despot, in an effort to ck up tips on how to

He also made it clear, however, that he is already planning his comeback and his next challenge for the presidency. "I will create a system which will allow me to come to power in the next election and change the whole lifestyle of this country." he said. "Russia is the richest country in the world with the biggest potential, but the people's lives here are the worst in the world. I want to arrange a decent life for my compatriots."

While some commentators and politicians have written off his chances of ever reaching power again, others issued a warning that his sacking may well have

strengthened his popularity.

An article in Izvestia said: "It is easy to remove Lebed from his post, but how to remove him from Russian politics, which more and more resembles a criminal feud and is in need of tough men who can take

victory in a Muslim land, he gave notice of unrestrained sia. By destroying the power of the ancient boyar clans and their zemsky Sobor, or council, imperial ambitions. June's presidential elections. From Europe — A History, Norman Davies, OUP, £25. Nikolai Cherkassov as he created a subservient, hier-**BODOB** They knew what they were talking The benefits of digital technology are obvious: per-second billing, superior call clarity, about and took time to give me the right absolute security and cheaper call charges. package at the right price. You can now take advantage of all of them for an unbeatable £17.63 per month. And you'll get 2 months' line rental absolutely free. This comes with the reassurance of our unique Call QuotaTM Service, protecting you from unexpectedly high bills, and our 14

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UN steps up peace hunt as Afghan foes haggle over power

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN KABUL

THE United Nations is attempting to broker a peace accord in Afghanistan between General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the powerful ruler of six stable northern provinces, and the Taleban Islamic army, which controls threequarters of the country. The aim is to save Kabul, the capital, from attack.

Page III

INVOIVE

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The military stalemate north of Kabul has given UN envoys time to try to bring both sides together. Pakistan is also involved in the drive for peace. Naseerullah Babar, the Home Minister, has travelled to all the main Afghan cities this week to try to save Kabul from another battering.

He met Mullah Moham-

He met Mullah Mohammad Omar, the Taleban chief,
in the southern city of Kandahar — a rare encounter for a
non-Afghan. Mullah Omar is
so ultra-conservative he receives only Muslim envoys.
Non-Muslim UN officials
have failed to gain access.

Troops loyal to General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord, came under heavy fire from Taleban mortars yesterday, a day after joining forces with Ahmad Shah Masood, the former Defence Minister, north of Kabul. An Uzbek officer said the two forces would join in an offeusive later in the day. (Reuter)

General Dostum is the key to peace. He has privately made it clear he expects to play a role in any future government to protect his fieldom. His sabre-rattling with tanks and artillery, positioned 40 miles north of Kabul, is designed to persuade Taleban.

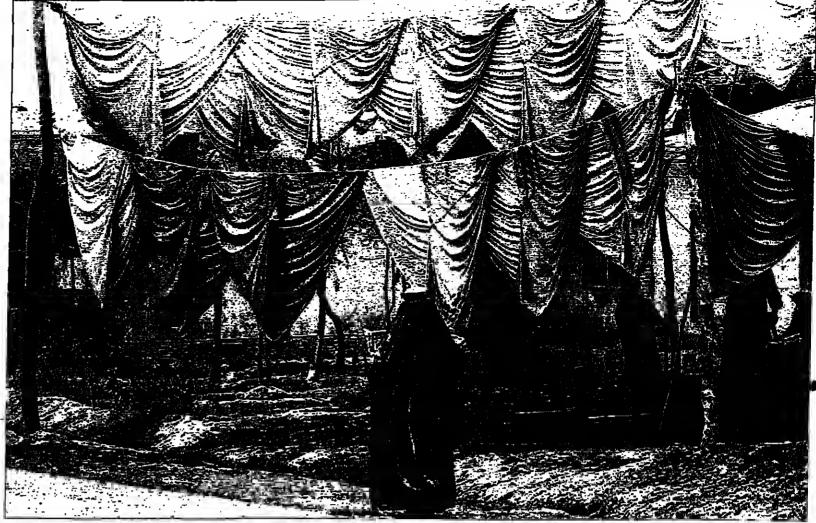
He is ready to share a role in government with both Taleban and General Ahmed Shah Masood, the Tajik leader who was defence chief in the former Kabul administration. ousted three weeks ago. Taleban says General Ma-

sood can have no role.

General Dostum wants to benefit from international aid and trade that will follow any peace deal. In particular, he wants to exploit huge natural gas reserves in his territory; these have not been extracted since the former Soviet Union quit the country in 1989.

He opposes Taleban's hardline form of Islam and has told UN and Pakistani emissaries that he will not tolerate strict interpretations of Sharia in his provinces.

A Russian draft resolution at the UN Security Council calling for an immediate end to hostilities is supported by the Central Asian countries. They look to General Dostum as a barrier against Taleban's hardline ideology. Both they and Russia will, therefore, seek to ensure that he is involved in any future government in Kabul.



An Afghan woman veiled from head to toe in a burga passes a shop selling them in Kabul. Taleban insists women must wear the garment



An unbelievable offer starting in The Times

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CHANGING TIMES

Kabul traffic cops under-employed in city of disruption

By Christopher Thomas

THREE weeks after the Taleban Islamic militia seized control of Kabul, there is chaos in the Afghan capital.

chaos in the Afghan capital.

There are oo functioning primary schools, the university has closed indefinitely, hospitals are disrupted, international aid programmes are winding down and there is greater hunger. But Taleban has restored one symbol of normality: traffic police.

Not that there is much traffic, save for ancient buses and bone-shaking yellow taxis, most of them Russian relics, as well as Toyota pickups roaring around town laden with turbaned Talebs with Kalashnikovs and shoulder-held rocket launchers—part of the Taleban uniform.

In the Russian-built Foreign Ministry three painters
are touching up the stairway,
a bizarre gesture amid the sea
of rubble that is Kabul, The
peak-capped traffic police,
waving little lollipops at the
speeding Talebs — the "go"
side, of course — are equally
as cosmetic and pointless.

as cosmetic and pointless.
One of the early diktats of
Taleban was to impose a fixed
price on meat, set at about
half the market rate. This was
abandoned after every butcher in Kabul ran out of mutton
and the price was so low
shepherds refused to slaugh-

ter their sheep. Some good things have flowed from Taleban's invasion: the shell-ing has stopped; ample articleap supplies of vegetables and other goods are arriving by lorry from Pakistan; there is no looting; and the new rulers have forced down the price of bread.

There is not much else for the people of Kabul to be happy about. The schools closed, because all the teachers were women. The university was shut because it was co-educational — forbidden under Taleban law. Its teachers, too, were mostly women.

The hospitals have been disrupted because many nurses and some women doctors are staying away, despite an exemption by Taleban allowing them to work. They fear going on the streets, which are off limits to women unless they are shopping or can prove they are medical staff.

Nurses in the cities two

Nurses in the city's two hospitals work lengthy five-day shift cycles without going home, thus minimising for time spent travelling to and from work. There are elaborate restrictions on male doctors treating women patients, and women doctors are oot allowed to go near a male patient.

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Artful ruse.

Tasmania plant is 'oldest in the world'

FROM ROGER MAYNARD

WHAT could be the world's oldest living plant has been discovered in Tasmania, scientists said yesterday. The shrub, dubbed King's Holly but officially named Lomotio tasmania, may be up to 40,000 years old.

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at.

It stands up to 26ft high and stretches almost a mile down two river gullies in Tasmania's southwest wilderness area.

The plant was found by botanists three years ago. The shrub was dated using fossil found in one of the rainforest gullies. Stephen Harris, of the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Ser-vice, said: "A fossil of an identical specimen has been found near the site in old gravels and that's been dated as more than 40,000

Previously the oldest plant was believed to be a creosote plant clone in California, estimated to be 11,700 years old.

Paris and Bonn in plan to scrap veto on EU integration

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

BRITAIN would lose its power to veto a future European defence force or other steps to closer integration under a scheme for a new flexible European Union, launched yesterday by France and Germany.

The Franco-German plan is an anempt by the two states at the heart of the EU to devise a way of bypassing objections from reluctant member states and launching common ac-tions in all fields covered by the European Union, from economic affairs to immigra-

tion, police work and defence.
The scheme would in particular lend itself to the creation of a European foreign policy and defence system, the two Governments say. A common defence policy involving willing states could be created within the frame of the West-ern European Union, it says.

Britain is resisting continental efforts to bring the WEU, the European pillar of the Nato alliance, under the aus-

pices of the European Union. The creation of new machinery for "accelerated integration" has emerged as a top priority at the current negotia-tions for revising the Maastricht treaty.

Britain supports the concept of a more flexible Europe. which most states agree will be especially necessary once the countries of the former Communist bloc join the Union early in the next century.

But London is suspicious of

anything that smacks of an attempt to create a "hardcore" Europe along lines suggested two years ago by federal-minded German politicians, The German Foreign Ministry insisted yesterday: "We do not want a hardcore Europe."

However, the Franco-German plan is certain to raise such a prospect, given its insistence that no member state can have the power of veto" over the desire of a group of states to band together over

any policy. The Government is committed to resisting any erosion of existing powers of veto in EU affairs. The plan, drafted by Klaus Kinkel and Hervé de Charette,

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the Foreign Ministers, notes that Europe already operates a variable-speed arrangement. Britain's potential optout from monetary union is an example.

The ministers call for a broad clause of "reinforced cooperation" in the new-look Maastricht treaty which would enable groups of states to "move ahead".

A condition would be that this would not undermine the rights of non-participating states, the document says. The European Court of Justice would exercise authority over the scheme. Only a qualified majority of states would be needed to start common initiatives, but states participating in a more co-ordinated policy would have to take decision



An Antwerp policeman confronts a protest against the handling of the child sex scandal

Belgian King calls for moral revival

FROM ASSOCIATEO PRESS IN ARDISSELS

IN A surprise appeal, King Albert II of the Belgians yesterday called for "a profound change in oor country after oumerous errors in a paedophile investigation created public outrage.

The monarch spoke amid nationwide protests as tens of thousands of Belgians from all walks of life marched for a fifth consecutive day, de-manding a clean-up of a justice system seen as inept

And corrupt.

King Albert met the parents of missing children after the dismissal of the chief investigator into the child pornography ring that has left at least foor girls dead and half a dozen more children missing. "We are con-vinced that this tragedy must oow be the opportunity for moral revival and profood change," the King said.

Jean-Lue Dehaene, dismissal of the investigating magistrate had sparked "an overall loss of confidence" in how Belgiom is governed.

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Hurricane cuts Cuba air links

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

BRINGING 90 mph winds, Hurricane Lili tore through Cuba yesterday, crossing the southern coast and dumping schral inches of rain on the provinces of Havana and

Havana international airport was closed until further notice, while the state electricity company cut power to most parts of the capital to minimise damage, and thousands of residents in low-lying coastal districts were evacuated from their homes.

A cold front moving south through the southern United States seemed likely to push Lili away from the Florida coast, posing a greater risk to the islands of the Bahamas.

Esteban Lazo, the secretary of Havana's Communist Party, said about 75,000 people had been evacuated from vulnerable homes in a poor state of repair in Havana. Some hard-currency earners.

residents were offered shelter in a makeshift dormitory set up in the Council of State, President Castro's office in Revolution Square.

Havana appeared to have been spared the worst of the winds, as the hurricane passed over one of the least populated parts of the country, missing the other cities of Cienfuegos and Matanzas, as well as the tourist peninsula of

However, the storm, which is the seventh hurricane this year, is almost certain to be a blow to Cuba's agricultural heartland, just as it slowly emerges from the economic crisis caused by the collapse of the Soviet Union, once its main trading partner and donor of financial aid.

. Most at risk are Cuba's sugarcane and tobacco crops, two of its chief export and

Artful ruse at the Prado

yesterday of a security lapse after it was discovered that a modern painting had been smuggled into the museum and hung between two Rembrandts (Tunku Varadarajan

The painting, depicting a

Maskrid: The authorities at the skull against a dark back-Praco Museum were told ground was noticed by two ground, was noticed by two tourists on a visit to the museum, who then alerted the curators. The painting had been hanging unnoticed for about five days, the museum said, although a source said it could have been there for weeks, or even months.

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COMMERCIAL UNION

We won't make a drama out of a crisis

Dole goes for broke with tax gamble in Reagan country

IN RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

BOB DOLE, the Republican challenger for the US presi-dency, will gamble his dwindling campaign resources on the battle for California, the richest electoral prize of all the states, and the birthplace of the Republican revolution

Just 17 days before the election, he has decided to pour up to \$7 million (£4.5 million) into California, and is said to have bought \$500,000 of television advertising in Los Angeles alone in the past 48 hours. He, his wife Elizabeth, and running mate Jack Kemp will maintain between them a constant presence in the state until polling day.

California for granted, just because he has Hollywood on his side", Mr Dole told a gathering in Riverside, southern California on Thursday.

"But the heart of California is

still Reagan country." California, with 54 electoral college votes, a fifth of the total needed to win, is as large and complex as a nation in its own right. The north, around San Francisco, is traditionally Democratic and liberal but the inland region of the south, a mixture of suburban sprawl and scrubby desert. has long

been a Republican stronghold. Mr Reagan, who called the die", used it to launch the taxpresidency, Mr Dole



hopes that his platform of tax cuts, higher defence spending

and curbs on immigration will

have similar appeal After weeks of agonising Mr Dole's decision to "bet the ranch" on California, jeopar-dising his chances in other marginal states such as New Jersey, was prompted by opinion polls showing that Mr Clinton's lead in the state is narrowing. Last week the respected Field poll suggested that it had halved to 10 points. On Wednesday, a poll by the San Francisco Examiner found a four-point drop in Mr

Clinton's lead to 12 points.

But the gap is still formidable and other polls which show Mr Clinton ahead even in parts of southern California emphasise the challenge fac-ing Mr Dole. In Riverside on Thursday, even his aides muttered that beating Mr Clinton might be "mission impossible". However, they point out their endeavours may save Republican congressional seats and force Mr Clinton to spend time campaigning in

in California in response but brushed off the new challenge. Leon Panetta, the White louse Chief of Staff, said the linton campaign had not yet decided whether to concentrate on the presidential race, to get Mr Clinton the widest possible mandate, or to focus on marginal congressional

In the California battle, Mr Dole's best weapon is his promise of a 15 per cent tax cut and a "fairer, simpler tax system". To rousing cheers at rally here, he announced that "we are going to end the IRS [Internal Revenue Service] as we know it".

In other echoes of Mr Reagan, he emphasised that states have more indepen-dence from faraway potentates on the Potomac", and promised to resist defence cuts which have cost many Califor-

nian jobs.

Most divisively, and in sharp contrast to Mr Clinton. he threw his weight behind two contentious Californian schemes to curb benefits for illegal immigrants and help

for minorities. He also backed a proposi-tion to block affirmative action

for minorioes. In Riverside, at least, his message was received warmly. However, unless many others in California follow suit, the cradle of the Republican revolution will also be the

Leading article, page 22



Bob Dole greets the rally at Riverside, where he took a tough line on immigration



Alemán: jailed in 1980

Vengeful Mayor on course to beat Ortega

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MANAGUA

FOR Arnoldo Alemán, the burly former Mayor of trou-Managua, the Nicaraguan presidential election tomorrow is a chance to settle personal scores

As head of the Liberal Party alliance that leads the polls, Señor Alemán hopes to defeat his old nemesis, Daniel Ortega, the former guerrilla comandante who headed the left-wing Sandinista Government in the 1980s.

Señor Alemán has plenty of reasons to detest the Sandinis-tas. They jailed him in 1980 for alleged counter-revolutionary activities. When his father died, his jailers refused to allow him to attend the funeral. In 1989, as his wife lay dying of stomach cancer, the Sandinistas placed him under house arrest and seized his coffee farm.

Should Señor Alemán win. analysts fear his anti-Sandinista anger and combative style could plunge the country back into the confrontation and violence that has domi-Nicaragua's recent

history.

Although his land was returned, he has pledged to force the Sandinistas to hand back or pay compensation for other confiscated property, includ-ing the house of his campaign chief, now occupied by the

Ortega family.

When the Sandinistas were voted out of office in a surprise election defeat in 1990, Señor Aleman became Mayor of Managua and took relish in removing hundreds of Sandinistas from the city payroll He set about removing all traces of the Sandinista revo-lution, including painting over several social realist murals

that adorned main streets. Sandinista hatred of Señor Aleman runs deep. They liken him to the hated dictator. Anastasio Somoza. As Mayor, they say, he displayed a style of corrupt, autocratic rule. Señor Aleman, 50, denies

any links to Somoza. But his Liberal Party was once a too of the Somoza regime. His father, a judge, was a Somoza appointee, and Senor Aleman himself was a leader of the Liberal Student Youth organisation, a pro-Somoza group, in the 1960s.



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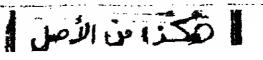
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Strategists turn their minds to fight for Congress

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* Republicans hope to clip Clinton coat-tails

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AS BOB DOLE'S hopes of catching President Clinton fade, attention is switching to the other main contest on November 5: the banle for

The Democrats must gain three seats to recapture the Senate and 18 for the House. The tide is flowing in their direction, but record numbers of races are far too close to call and even Washington's most outspoken pundits hesitate to predict the outcome.

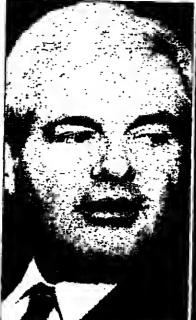
Mr Clinton's strategists were meeting yesterday to he should decide whether and the last 18 days pursuing a landslide victory by courting traditionally Republican states, or focus primarily on helping Democratic congressional candidates in states he may already have secured. Conversely, a reason Mr Dole has opted to fight on in California is not to abandon his party's congressional can-

Who controls Congress will

ture of a second Clinton term. If the Republicans cling on, Mr Clinton would again be compelled to react to their agenda, although News Gingrich's chastened revolutionaries would almost certainly be more moderate.

If the Democrats regain control, Mr Clinton could return to the legislative activism of his first two years to leave his mark on America. George Will, a leading conservative columnist, argues that Republican candidates should now "advertise" Mr Dole's imminent defeat to themselves.

The Senate is likely remain Republican, but a dozen of the 34 Senate races could still go either way - a Mr Gingrich's young House revolutionaries, is the Repubuniquely high number this late in the campaign. Demolican candidate. They are runcratic candidates have Senaning strongly in Colorado. tors Robert Smith of New Hampshire and Larry Pressming, where Republican in-cumbents are retiring. They ler of South Dakota in trouble, and are challenging hard for would love to defeat North Carolina's Jesse Helms, but the wily arch-conservative is



Gingrich: unpopularity factor



Pressler: hitting big trouble



Weld: running neck and neck



Kerry: Boston Brahmins' battle



Bob Dole's old Kansas seat Senate hopefuls dig up dirt in

FROM TOM RHODES IN TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

CONFIDENT of victory next reith, President Clinton flies to ew Jersey tomorrow to do battle for a crucial Senate seat the Democrats must hold to regain Congress.

The race between two congressman. Dick Zimmer, a Republican, and Bob Torricelli, a Democrat, to succeed Bill Bradley, the state's retiring Democratic senator, is one of the sleaziest and most costly in America this year. And it is also far too close to call, with at least a quarter of the voters undecided.

Although presideotial polls have Mr Clinton easily ahead of Bob Dole in the Garden

6 Neither man would in Mr Torricelli, shake hands a vain, slick Italor look the ian-American and former boyother in friend of Bianca the eye 🤊 Jagger. Fought almust entirely

over the television airwayes, the duel has degenerated into a mud-slinging contest of extraordinary

proportions. Mr Zimmer, 52, has painted his opponent as a divorced liberal without ethics, accusing him variously of fundraising on behalf of an executive with links to the Mafia, caring for the daughter of a South Korean fugitive from the FBI and supporting Hamas, the radical Palestinian group. For his part, Mr Torricelli, 45, has depicted the Republican as a surrogate of Newt Gingrich, the unpopular House Speaker, an ally of the tobacco companies and a politician whose key campaign strategist also has alleged ties to the Mob.

The claims and counterclaims with which both candidates have blanketed New Jersey were brought to a head last week in the studios of WPart television in Trenton. where they met for the second

of two public debates. So bad has the feud become that neither man would shake hands, look the other in the eye, or attempt to engage the other in serious discourse about issues affecting their

electorate. "This is a last chance to raise the level of this debate and this campaign. This is important for our state and a last chance for us," said Mr Torricelli before immediately accusing his opponent of dumping toxic waste in the Atlantic and voting against gun control. "Mr Zimmer cannot defeod his record and instead this campaign has deteriorated into acrimony."

"It is not our advertisements that are negative, it is Bob Torricelli's record that is negative and the people of New Jersey have a right to know," Mr Zimmer retorted In fact, while both candidates

are desperate to portray the other as too radical for the moderate votneither is viewed as extreme by his party. Mr Zimmer. a soft-spoken former cor-

porate lawyer, is a fiscally conservative, pro-choice Republican in the mould of the ever popular Christie Todd Whitman, the Governor of New Jersey. Mr Torricelli, a former aide

Vice-President Walter Mondale, has shown a conservative streak in voting for tough restrictions against illegal immigration.

Both are in the centre of their parties and they really aren't all that different," said Ross Baker, a political scientist at Rutgers University. "But they are transmuting molehills into mountains to

If the Democrats are to have any hope of capturing the six Senate seats that currently keep the Republicans in power in the Senate, Mr Torricelli must win in

The only question for Mr Clinton, himself facing further sleaze allegations over political glad-handing with wealthy Indonesians, is how closely he will wish to be aligned with a candidate whose character is facing a daily pounding on the airwaves in the neighbouring conurbations of New York and Philadelphia.

TWA bomb theory is undermined by tests

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

METALLURGICAL tests was inside the fuel tank. It did have given rise to further suspicions that the TWA Flight 800 disaster was caused by mechanical failure rather than terrorism, but the truth is

still unclear. It was reported yesterday that scientists who examined the airliner's central fuel tank believe that the explosion which sent the jumbo jet plunging into the Atlantic in July, killing 230 people, was

less dramatic than a bomb. The difference is down to partities of a second, but metallurgists who have studted the wreckage of the fuel tank told The Washington Post that the damage patterns were typical of a "low order" explosion. The direction in which the metal bent suggested that the source of the blast

not, said the newspaper. appear to indicate the use of plastic explosive.

Not everyone agrees, but the receding likelihood that terrorism brought down the Paris-bound plane is a dubious comfort. It simply raises questions of air safety, particularly on elderly Boeing 747s.

The latest twist in a baffling investigation, one which has seen myriad theories and countless "false starts" regarding the likelihood of sabotage. coincided with reports of progress by the US Navy search team which has worked steadily to recover wreckage from the crash. The navy said its scanners had located a new seam of Flight 800 debris, including up to 400 pieces of the aircraft.

10 points ahead of his 1990 foe. Harvey Gantt. Republicans hone to win in three conservanive Southern states - Ala-bama, Louisiana and Mr Clinton's home state of Arkan-

- where veteran Democrats are retiring, and in Massachusetts where William Weld, the Governor, and John

Kerry, the Democrat incumbent, are neck and neck in the battle of the Boston

They have an outside chance of unseating Paul Wellstone, an unashamedly liberal first-term senator from Minnesota, and in New Jersey two congressmen. Bob Torri-

celli and Dick Zimmer, are dead level in a remarkably dirty race to succeed Bill

Bradley, a retiring Democrat. The Democrats are most hopeful of winning the House, where all 435 seats are being contested. They are counting polls showing Americans gen-

erally more likely to vote for Democrats, and Mr Ging-

rich's unpopularity. The Democrats are target ing the 44 first-term Republicans who won with less than 55 per cent of the vote in 1994. Republicans hope to win most of the 19 conservative Southern districts where Democrats

are retiring. However, Mr Gingrich has reduced his odds on the Republicans' holding the House from 10-1 to 5-1 and history is against them. The last times they took the House, 1946 and 1952, it was for one

Leading article, page 23



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Elected heir of imperial dynasty can offer European Union a few tips on eastward expansion

New waltz for Habsburgs

IF THE 20th century had taken a slightly different turn, Karl Habsburg would have been crowned prince of an empire straddling the centre of Europe. But, as fate had it, his distant relative Franz Ferdinand visited Sarajevo and was shot dead, so two world wars later Karl

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has to make do with being a newly elected Austrian deputy to the European

It is not quite the same thing, as his 83-year-old father Otto von Habsburg himself a veteran European deputy for the Bavarian Christian Social Union no doubt warned him. Even so, the imperial genes could come in useful. The Austro-Hungarian empire had its own currency, its own brand of Eurocrats and, long before the Maastricht treaty, a plausible version of flexible federalism.



There may not be so much waltzing in Brussels but there are handy parallels with the Vienna of the Habsburgs. If nothing else, Karl should provide the Strasbourg Parliament with an authoritative voice on eastward enlargement: his grandfather's empire took in oot only Hungarians but also Poles. Czechs. Slovaks, Slovenes, and others on the waiting list for the European Union.

The old joke told about Otto is still making the rounds for his son. Karl is told that there is a Austria-Hungary

are we playing? he asks. The 35-year-old former political science student has abandoned his dynastic pride Like other members of his family - though not Uncle Felix, who was recently arrested when he tried to travel through Austria - he has renounced his claim to the imperial throne. During the European election campaign, however, he praised monar-

government. Republics failed, he said, to bring up sons and daughters to be future presidents". Monarchies were clearly ahead in this respect. Karl is an arch-conservative but the eneral view of his compatriots is that he is quite harmless. The more dynamic person in the Habsburg household is probably Francesca, his wife. She studied art history in London and put in a stint at Sotheby's, and has helped to set

chical rule as a desirable system of

up a restoration project to save threat-ened art in Eastern Europe. In the view of Vienna coffee house sages, the Habsburgs are behaving with considerably more dignity than many of the Austrian nobility who are scrambling for the return of former estates in Central Europe. Every duke or count seems to be filing suit in the hope of reclaiming an ancestral home or a



Karl Habsburg, with wife, Francesca, and daughter, casts his ballot in Austria's election for the European Parliament last Sunday

Young Hitler' 'was admirer of the Jews'

HITLER, it seems, had nothing personal against the Jews. That is the main finding of a well-researched book. Hitler's Vienna (Piper Publishing House, Munich), by Austrian historian Printer Hampun, who has debunked Brigitte Hamann, who has debunked some of the myths about the Vazi leader's early days.

Historians in the past claimed that personal friction between Hitler and Austrian Jews sparked his hatred. In fact. Professor Hamann found that Hitler got on well with Jewish pupils at his school in Linz that he admired Jewish actors in the Linz theatre, and in Vienna enthusiastically attended Wagner operas directed by Gustav Mahler. the Jewish conductor and composer.

Professor Hamann - having dug up old medical bills - also refutes the theory that he was enraged by the fees charged by a Jewish doctor who treated the cancer of Hitler's mother. Nor is it true that Jewish professors rejected his application to the Vienna Art Academy. Professor Hamann argues that Hitler's anti-Semitism was pragmatic rather than personal - a mimicking of populist politicians such as Karl Lüger, then Mayor of Vienna. Anti-Semitism was in the air and Hitler, as a politician on the make, sucked it in.

REBECCA WHITEREAD, the British sculptor, is at the centre of a row in Vienna. Next month, to mork the fiftyeighth onniversary of the Nazi pogroms. the city was due to unveil her white concrete cube memorial to the survivors

of the Holocaust. The sculpture was supposed to sit in the middle of Judenplatz, a baroque

Art caught in pogrom row square. In digging up the cobbled square
— in the heart of Vienna's ancient ghetto - builders found traces of a medieval pogrom when the Viennese set ablaze the nagogue. Archoeologists consider the find to be more important than Whiteread's sculpture. Local residents. furious at losing their parking spaces, ore also trying to stop the installation.

Italians buoyed by Kohl vow on entry to single currency

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ROMANO PRODI, the Italian Prime Minister, reassured after talks in Bonn that Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, "fully supported" the country's aspirations to join

the single currency. Signor Prodi said Herr Kohl had told him he saw "no obstacles to the re-entry of the lira into the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM), or to the lira

joining the single currency". But the German leader, who entertained Signor Prodi to dinner at the Chancellery in Bonn, did not commit himself to a timetable lor Italian membership of economic and monetary union (EMU), and there is still speculation that Germany and France would prefer Italy and Spain to join the single currency "soon after" the starting date of ITYYY ISIO OOWN IN THE Maastricht treaty. Herr Kohl met José Maria Aznar, the Spanish Prime Minister, for similar talks on Tuesday.

Signor Prodi said he expected the lira to re-enter the ERM - which it left with sterling in 1992 - "by the end of the



Tietmeyer: is opposed to

year". Italy would then comply with the Maastricht requirement that any currency oining EMU must have been in the ERM for two years beforehand. The Prime Minister said Herr Kohl had told him Germany wanted "a strong Italian presence in European institutions". La Repubblica said their meeting was all

dear Helmut, dear Romano". There is, nonetheless, continuing disquiet in Italy over the insistence by Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank chairman, that currencies joining EMU must have a "stable and durable" track record, and that budgetary "window-dressing" will be disallowed. The budget adopted by the Prodi Cabinet three weeks ago and now being debated by parliament is designed to cut the huge public deficit partly through spending cuts but also by revenue-raising measures, including a highly unpopular property tax, a vague "Euro tax", and unspecified

"Treasury operations". Il Messaggero noted that Ulrich Cartellieri, of Deutsche Bank, had said this week that EMU would commence in 1999 with Germany, France, the Benelux countries, Ireland and Austria. "but not initially with the Mediterranean nations". The paper said: "Herr Cartellieri evidently has an Italian name but Germanic

Emma Marcegaglia, head the Young Industrialists section of Confindustria, the Italian equivalent of the Con-federation of British Industry, said that the Prodi budget failed to tackle structural problems and would cripple businesses rather than en-courage growth. "We may get into Europe, but as a moribund country." she said.

French phones ring millennial changes

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

MORE than 3,500 technicians were on hand to field an avalanche of queries from baffled French telephone customers last night when the country's eight-figure numbers gained a further two

The change, which came into effect at 11pm French time, will expand the volume of possible numbers from 60 million to 470 million and increase the country's capacity for mobile telephones and computer modems.

It will create a stock of numbers lasting until the middle of the next century. Under the new system France has been divided into five regions, each with a new double-digit prefix for domes-tic calls. Paris numbers now have the prefix 01, when calling within France. Numbers in the northwest are 02, the northeast 03, the southeast and Corsica 04 and the southwest 05. To call a French number from outside France,

the first zero must be omitted. In a report this month, the French Finance Ministry said that the use of personal com-puters, faxes and mobile telephones was being restricted by the limited supply of adding new telephone lines at the rate of one million a year and France Télécom predicted that, without extra numbers, the demand for lines would have outstripped availability as early as next year.

"It was the only way to confront the saturation that we were facing in the short term," said Jean Pierre Poitevin, the France Télécom project director. As of last night's change there were nearly eight telephone num-bers potentially available for every man, woman and child

Michel Bon, president of day be had "no fear" that the move to a ten-digit system would cause problems, adding "this is an operation that has been three years in the

planning". But just in case, a campaign to explain the oew system has been under way for the past six months, with advertise-ments on television, radio and in the press.

were reassured to learn that if they happened to be talking on the telephone at the stroke of Ilpm last night, they would not be cut off by the system in

THE SUNDAY TIMES



THE MAGAZINE

Elaine Paige's long, show-stopping journey from Barnet to Broadway



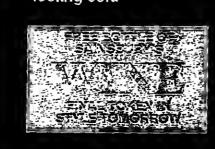
THE CULTURE

Rhoda Koenig is bewildered by Britain's fascination with Arthur Miller



STYLE

Why being the hottest thing in town can sometimes leave a girl feeling cold





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OPINION

Our greatest violinist turns into a pop pundit — and Mrs Bottomley rivals Mystic Meg



DANCE

A night of dodgy tango opens the new Sadler's Wells season at the Peacock Theatre THE

مكذا من الأصل



POP

Still rooted in the Sixties. Donovan provides a little mellow entertainment for Camden Town



ON MONDAY

With 26 million words, the new Dictionary of Art will be the publishing event of the decade

eaders who have nothing better to think about may recall that Dr Jack Cunningham, the Shadow Heritage Secretary, was recently chastised in this column. The reason? After a mere 16 years of preparing for government, the Labour Party appeared to have no cultural policy whatsoever.

I now realise that I was unfair. Even as I wrote, great thoughts were being formed. And this week Dr Jack introduced something called the "creative economy" which I assumed meant plumbers demanding to be paid in cash, but in fact turns out to be Labour's arts strategy. Let's hear about it in Dr Jack's own words:

"I have chosen five key objectives for a leisure strategy. They are: to encourage and enable creative talent; to promote greater access and participation; to build and nurture new audiences; to reverse Britain's declining share in world tourism; and to promote a 'sport for all' policy."

Amazing. How many spin-doc-

Top of the waffle charts this month tors, researchers, brainstorming sessions and "widespread consultations" did it take to come up with that mind-numbing waste of oxygen? No wonder that Dr Jack wins

our Waffle of the Week award. Here are some other outstand-ing contributions to the cultural arena in the past seven days:

Loony visionary of the week: To prove that this is a non-partisan column, we bestow this accolade on Dr Jack's opposite number. Virginia Bottomley. This week the incurably jolly Mrs B told a bemused audience at the Royal Society of Arts that "in a few years we will perhaps be able to look at the Getty Museum's collection, in hologram, in the middle of our

Well, I don't know about your living room, and I certainly haven't had the pleasure of a

bracing soirée round at Chateau Bottomley, But I'm not sure how I would fit a hologram of the Getty collection into mine. Could we squeeze the Roman mosaics between the telly and the big pot plant, and shove the Old Masters next to that ghastly Bakelite clock which my wife snapped up (Gettystyle!) from a car-boot sale? It seems unlikely. Srill, the promise of "a priceless art collection (in hologram form) in every British home by the millennium" might just swing a tight election.

Dubious notion of the week: The Society of London Theatre tells us that a show called Titanic: The Musical may hit the West End next year. Tasteless? You said it. But considering how many musicals turn into disasters, I guess it makes a kind of sense to turn a disaster into a musical.



RICHARD MORRISON

Working mom of the week: The American film director Allison Anders gives her child-minder a credit at the end of her new movie, Grace of My Heart. Who, I wonder, will be the first babysitter

to be thanked by some overwrought Oscar winner?

Sad author of the week: According to a list of hardback book sales to appear in The Times next week, Graham Swift's Booker Prize shortlisted novel, Last Orders, sold precisely three copies in the 600 monitored bookshops last week. Perhaps he should rename it "Any More Orders, Please". Or perhaps he should ask his publisher some searching questions.

Waste of the week: Last night. Nigel Kennedy made his debut as a Top of the Pops presenter. Yes, the prodigy whose performance of Elgar's Violin Concerto once moved even this stony countenance to something approaching emotion is now reduced to spouting bursts of blabber between Boyzone and the Boo Radleys. Has

ONE birthday celebration for

Melvyn Tan, who was 40 on

Sunday, was a concert on the

previous night which brought us Tan the born-again pianist

in newfound enthusiasm for

the modern concert grand, as

well as the long-established

With his keyboard col-

specialist on the fortepiano.

league Ronald Brautigam he

shared a wittily pointed and

ebullient account of Poulenc's

Sonata for Four Hands at

One Piano, perhaps just a

The same pair encom-

passed a wider variety in six

pieces from Bizet's Jeux

d'enfants, from the fizzily

spinning La Toupie and the

quietly creepy Colin-Mail-

lard to the exuberance of the

final Galop. On his own, and

on the modern piano, Tan gave a poetic insight into

Chopin's Three Nocturnes,

Op 9, heavy on the rubato at

times, but with a sensibility to

phrase and fingering that brought its own reward.

shade brusque in delivery.

him gently back to his fiddle? Or will Nige drift through the rest of his life in a fog of self-imposed mediocrity, much to the irritation of those of us who have no choice bui 10 be average.

Postmodern chic of the week: The Institute of Contemporary Arts, which is given £815,000 by the Arts Council each year so that it can be at the "cutting edge" of all that's pretentious, is hosting a conference next Saturday devoted to James Bond. Fashion gurus will earnestly debate 007's changing wardrobe. A "collector of Bond memorabilia" will talk about Bond and Obsession": a design expert will discuss "Bond and Architecture": and a London University professor will speak about "Bond and new technology". No folks; it's not April 1 - just the wacky world of subsidised arts. Which brings us to . . .

Quango of the week: Step forward the London Arts Board - all 272 of you. According to the LAB's latest report, it has 37 full-time officers. 15 board members and a remarkable 220 "advisers and assessors". No wonder that the chairman of this merry multitude, Clive Priestley, writes that the LAB's "two main tasks are administration and the exercise of influence". Since many of the 220 advisers and assessors are people who benefit from the LAB's own grants, I should imagine that influence is being exercised very nicely, thank

you.
There are no fewer than ten such regional arts boards in England plus hundreds of other "advisers" who sit on the national arts councils' numerous committees. No wonder that the fastest growing artform in the subsidised cultural world is inertia. Jack Cunningham should fit in well if he becomes arts minister.

Still mad about saffron

DONOVAN cannot, it seems, escape his past: a recent tour of America had to be cancelled because he could not get a visa an account of a 25-year-old prug conviction. And, to be honest, he does not sound like a man desperately trying to break free from the shackles of the 1960s.

As he stood on stage in the Britpop capital of Camden Town, just one man and his guitar, it was hard to think of any other artist who has

> Donovan Dingwalls, NWI

changed so little over 30 years. Donovan is forever mellow man incarnate who is still trying to catch the wind.

True, the Happy Mondays borrowed a few of his trippier tunes and named a 1990s drug anthem in his honour, and the very fashionable Rick Rubin moduced his new album, Su-mi. But the man himself remains unmoved by the passing vagaries of musical fashion. His new label makes a virtue of this, talking not of some brave new direction but "the resumption of a journey. a magic that is about to be felt again".

And, yes, there was a certain magic in the air. He sang songs from the new album full of all the classic Donovan hallmarks - gentle folk melodies, a voice that quivers with sincerity and lyrics full of benedictions. mystical invocations and tributes to Mother Earth. But it was the 1960s troubadour the sell-out crowd had come to hear and he knew it 100.

He played all of the oldies with panache and affection, starting with Catch the Wind and working his way through Hurdy Gurdy Man and Colours to Sunshine Superman and Mellow Yellow. There was none of that weary super-disdain for the old favourites; instead they were treated like much-loved children now grown up in years but in the mind's eye still cavorting innocently in some golden

nursery of youth. No matter that he still sounds the same after all these years. Better than becoming a parody of yourself, like Bob Dylan, his one-time inspiration. Some might call it fossilisation. The crowd on Wednesday night would have called it maintaining integrity in a fickle old world.

WILLIAMSON

DANCE: Debra Craine on a trial by tango at Sadler's Wells's fill-in home



"Less like seductive coupling and more like tedious duty": Miguel Angel Zotto and Milena Plebs of Tango Por Dos

tamed into

timidity 9

builders was demolishing the old Sadler's Wells. another was frantically working to get its temporary home up and running in time for its opening on Wednesday night. In the event, things weren't quite ready but, after a little pep talk from lan Albery, chief executive of Sadler's Wells, the curtain duly rose at the Pea-

Owned by the London School of Economics, the Peacock (formerly known as the Royalty) will be home to the Sadler's Wells organisation for the next two years, while a new £38 million theatre is constructed on the company's Islington site. The Peacock is doing double duty, as an LSE lecture hall by day and as a West End lyric theatre by rught. Sadler's Wells will manage the Peacock for the next decade; after the new Sadler's Wells opens in 1998 the Peacock will be used, among other things, as a West End transfer for the Wells's more successful

productions.
The LSE, meanwhile, has

applied for lottery funding to Tango Argentino, which was completely refurbish the Peacock, both front of house and backstage.
It certainly needs it. The

auditorium, huilt in 1960, is shabby and grim: the bars and public areas are tacky. But a start

has been made The theatre has an enlarged orchestra pit and the new box office and main foyer, with their clean white spaciousness, hint at bener things to come. And, once inside the 1,000seat auditorium.

the attractions of the Peacock become apparent - great sightlines and a lovely wide stage.

The Peacock opened with the kind of popular dance show this venue is likely to encourage. One trusts. though, that future offerings will be better than Tango Por Dos. The company is run by Miguel Angel Zotto and Milena Plebs, the stars of

Their show, Perfumes de Tango, promises to evoke the particular magic of a Buenos

lowlife

There is not much likelihood of that in this dull cabaret. You 6 Tango's would be hardpressed to catch a whiff of the raw tango's origins in the expression back streets of Buenos Aires. has been The basic in-

Aires tango club".

stincts manifested in the dance form here look less like seductive coupling and duty. The urgency of the tango's raw expression has been tamed into timidity: the

vignettes of passion, death and betrayal are all colourless. The show encompasses a variety of tango styles, from its early rhythmic incarnation of machismo swagger through to its emergence in the tango halls of Buenos Aires and the ballrooms of Europe, its love 1920s, and its modern re-

emergence and updating. The couples are glued to-gether check to check, the men in their suits and fedoras, the women in their slit skirts. fishnet stockings and high heels. But there isn't a lot you can do with the tango's limited vocabulary except dance it with fire. And that's just what you won't find in this tired and spiritless show.



Party pieces

RECITAL

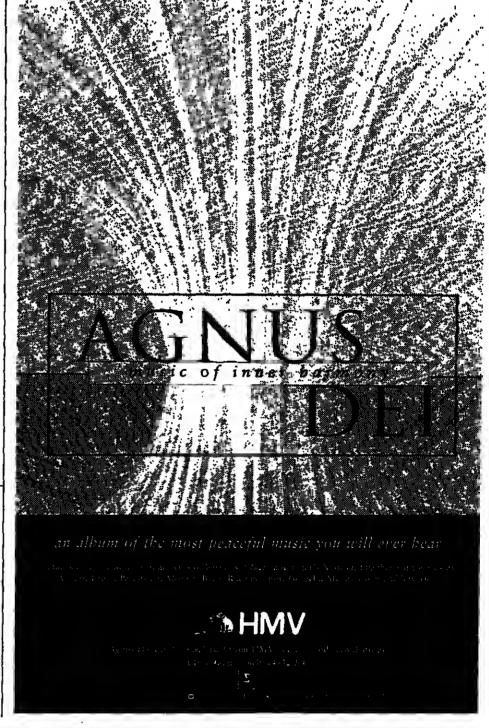
Tan and Friends Wigmore Hall

The pianist might have been better advised to bring forward the modern piano instead of the forteplano for Anne Sofie von Otter in five Schubert songs. She sang them with a beguiling beauty of tone and warm under standing, notably the depth of feeling she brought to Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt, and the ironic character of Die Manner sind mechant, but the fortepiano tone did seem to impart a curiously blunt accompaniment

It was better suited to Mendelssohn's often garrulous D major Cello Sonata, Op 58, in which Steven Isserlis shared a lively giveand-take of melody and har-mony with the keyboard, and kept the virtuoso element under firm control. At least the cellist was more worthily engaged in this than inflicting on us transcriptions of three Lennon/McCartney num-bers, the triviality of which was made to sound more musically barren without words.

Four hands at one fortepiano were featured in three Marches Militaires D733, by Schubert, where the crisp articulation of the keyboard imparted a rhythm and colour to the music that made Its basically simple character sound a clarion call to attention at the start of a programme of strangely mixed content, even for a birthday.

NOEL GOODWIN



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Alistair Horne asks if a Bonapartist victory at Waterloo would have led to a European superstate under Franco-German hegemony

here are already more than 300,000 titles on Napoleon on the shelves. So why be so rash as to add yet another to the list? One of the principal reasons a historian has for writing books is to inform himself, and I like to think my recent study of Napoleon may have taught me a few things — not only about Boney himself, but about the shape of modern Europe, too. While re-exploring the story of that silliest of conflicts, the War of 1812 between Britain and America,

a most alarming penny dropped. In November, 1814, the Duke of Wellington had been invited to take over Britain's unsuccessful armies in North America. Disapproving strongly of the war, he refused. The fighting against those former colonials ended in a draw a few weeks later. But if he had taken a different view, or if the Americans had been efficient enough seriously to threaten Canada, then Wellington could well have been 3,000 miles away when Napoleon launched his supreme bid against the Allies in June 1815. What then? As he famously declared, even with the Iron Duke there, the day had

What if Napoleon had won?

indeed been "the nearest-run thing

you ever saw".
Without Wellington at the helm, the Prussian commander, Blücher, would almost certainly not have made his famous eccentric move to support his allies that June, and with equal certainty - Waterloo would have been lost. On the other hand, such a victory would not have ensured Napoleon's ultimate triumph. Vast fresh forces of Russians. Austrians and Germans were already moving towards France, and a second battle, or perhaps several, would probably have followed Waterloo. But even if that conflict had ended in defeat for Napoleon (by no means certain) it would have been a continental and not a British victory. What followed would, therefore, have been not a Pax Britannica, but a peace dominated by Metternich's Central

There is an (apocryphal) anecdote about a British dignitary

asked the Chinese leader what might have happened if, instead of President Kennedy, his Soviet counterpart Khrushchev had been assassinated. Mao reflected a while, then replied: "It's hard to tell. But I don't suppose Mr Onassis would have married Mrs Khrushchev."

What if can be a dangerous ame, but hard to resist. If, in 1803 Napoleon could have hung on to French Louisiana — then larger than the United States - instead of selling it off for a mere \$12 million, it could ultimately have confirmed France as the world's number one power. But would a Pitt or a Castlereagh have permitted that?

Again, if Napoleon had not won so resoundingly at Austerlitz in 1805, might there have been no Waterloo ten years later? And what if he had won definitively, without a replay, at Mont St Jean in 1815? In an article in The Spectator of March 23, 1996, entitled Napoleon or the Kaiser: Choose, Norman Stone, Professor of Modern History at Oxford, speculated exactly thos. Lucien Bonaparte, he thought, would have been made King of Scotland, Joseph King of England; a guillotine would have been set up in Whitehall: Oxford - Stone's fancy ran free — would have (perhaps rather usefully) been turned into a school of military engineering and medicine. He gleefully speculated that the Dean of

horses in the cathedral".

Marginally, Professor Stone reckoned it would have been better to be defeated by Napoleon than by the Kaiser. In the long run, it would possibly even have proved beneficial; at least we would have had good trains, "sensible property laws and decent schools". (He

makes no mention of the cuisine).

Christchurch, joining the Resis-

tance, would have been "bayonet-

ted by Polish troops stabling their

historian about to make his name in Cambridge, G.M. Trevelyan, tackled exactly the same theme some 90 years ago. Aged 31, the future Master of Trinity and OM won a prize for a competition in the Westminster Gazette in July 1907 with an essay entitled If Napoleon had won the Battle of Waterloo.

His starting point was the signa-ture of the "Convention of Brussels" in June 1815, whereby a defeated Wellington was offered the same generous terms to "evacuate the seat of war" which the French had been accorded at Cintra seven years previously, during the Peninsular War. Napoleon - "a mere shadow, in spiritual and intellectual form, of his former self" - was overwhelmed by the cries for "peace" that ran down the ranks of his exhausted army, and was persuaded to propose a pact of

unexpected clemency" to England. Aided by a "time-serving". Teu-

tonic Prince Metternich, his aim almost Gaullist in its modernity was simply to remove paymaster Britain "from the scene of affairs and from counsels of the continental monarchs". The result — as sketched out by young Trevelyan was to be a Europe remarkably akin to the dreams of a Jacques Delors, with France dominant, the Germans remaining "the quietest and most loyal of all Napoleon's subjects" (remember this was writ-

In the ensuing years of peace, in an impoverished Britain "distress grew yearly more intolerable, among both the rural and industrial populations". Then, in 1825, there broke out "the ill-advised but romantic rebellion of Lord Byron":

Britain isolated.

ten seven years before 1914), and

"Savage reprisals of government established the blood feud between one half of England and the other. Byron's execution made as great a noise in the world as any event

writings of Shelley, especially after his long imprisonment, obtained popularity which was one of the most curious symptoms of the

This bloodthirsty hur pleasing fantasy of one of Britain's most distinguished historians closed with Napoleon dying in 1826 of a kind of Alzheimer's-like premature senility, enjoying delusions that Josephine was still alive.

hatever the precise details of a British defeat in 1815. of a British uciea. by extension. Trevelyan's thesis conjures up a prospect of Britain, marginalised from Europe, pushed inevitably by the dictates of commerce into bed with a suspiciously isolationist America a scenario not very far off that of today's Euro-sceptics. Would it have given the world 100 years of peace? Somehow, I rather doubt it; but then I have never been much impressed by the Weltanschauung of your average Euro-sceptic. The author's How Far from Austerlitz?

Napoleon 1805-1815 is published b

Parliament's devilish bad act

Like most hasty laws, the handgun ban is tyrannical

pack of dangerous dogs broke into an infant school and killed 16 children. By now every rottweiler in the land would be dead and the ownership of such dogs would be illegal. Imagine that a drunk driver swept through 16 child cyclists at night on an unlit road. Drunk driving would by now be an imprisonable offence and a lower age limit would be imposed on highway cycling.

More children die each year from dangerous dogs and drunk drivers than die from handgun wounds in a decade. Yet dogs and drunks usually kill people one at a time. Serial accidents do not evoke public emotion. Without that emotion governments find it strangely hard to act.

The dervishes have danced out their week on the handgun issue. Now let plodding Sanity take the stage. First, the Government is not to stop 80 per

cent of all handguns in private possession. It is to illegal, which is quite different. Governments declare many things illegal. That does not make

them vanish, "Banned drugs" are everywhere, as are "prohibited immigrants". The relationship between a law and its effect is as tenuous as between King Canute and the tide. Thousands of handguns in Britain are already illegal. They are in the hands of crooks, not gun clubs. These ones are for terrorising and killing people, not shooting at targets. I doubt whether any of

those will be surrendered. Sweep aside emotion and the question for any legislator is the same. Does the increase in public safety outweigh the infringement on personal freedom? Anyone who has ploughed through the Dunblane story will realise that this tragedy was not due to a serious deficiency in the law, rather in its implementation. There were enough warnings about Hamilton's behaviour for his licence to be revoked. They were not heeded. No law can offer the public protection if it is not both enforceable and

enforced. The tendency nowadays is for government to deny any

such blame and instead de-

mand "additional powers", invariably ones that restrict the liberty of the individual. I thought this week's Cullen report on Dunblane was a sensible document, which tried to balance the present nublic hostility towards gun ownership against a need for controls to work in practice. Swayed by public emotion and the peril to the Scottish Secretary's marginal seat (which includes Dunblane), the Cabinet rejected Cullen.

Instead, it has plunged into a Dutch auction of legislative fervour. The Scottish Nationalists have outbid Lord Cullen. The Scottish Office has outbid the Home Office. The Labour Party has outbid everybody.

Anyone who thought New Labour was also New Reason should have seen the Blackpool conference platform given to Ann Pearston of the Dunblane Snowdrop Petition. Michael Howard's failure (so far) to ban .22 competition pistols at gun

clubs was described by Snawdrop willingness to tolerate another Hungerford or Dunblane". The nation is

bound to show collective sympathy to the bereaved after an accident. When communities are traumatised we feel the need for collective grief. But sympa-thy is one thing. Seeking to win political points by exaggerating government's ability to stop further horrors is dangerous. The 1987 Hungerford shootings did not involve a school, which is why little was done afterwards. Dunblane tapped a deep well of emotion. There is something frightening about a political system that responds only to emotion, not to reason. It

reminds us how close we still are to lynch law. Thus a letter in Thursday's Times implied that the real lesson of Dunblane is that single men with apparently homosexual inclinations should not be allowed near boys' clubs. And how are they to be found out and stopped? The police would be given "the means to deal with those, such as Hamilton, who cloak their obsessions under the guise of an interest in the welfare of young people". After Dun-blane, many might cry Amen.

But to what snoopers' and gossipers' charter would every homosexual youth worker become vulnerable? Bad laws, as Burke said, open the door to the worst tyrannies. I cannot see why anyone "needs" to possess a weapon designed to kill, merely to get pleasure from shooting at cardboard. But then I cannot

see why anyone should want to drive a car in Britain that can go at 150mph. I cannot understand why anyone wants a Gabon viper or a pit bull terrier. I cannot see the virtue of cocaine over whisky, or why people should want to what the law calls gross indecency" with consenting adults. On the other hand, I know what Robert Frost meant when he said that a civilised society must tolerate "eccentricity to the point of doubtful sanity". The proviso is that the eccentricity does not harm others. A liberal society requires that the onus be on the regulator to prove harm. not the eccentric to prove his

innocence. Lives might be saved if we banned all cars and danger-

ous dogs. We do not do so. Its pump-action shotgun or a Snowdrop's terms "we just let sporting rifle. I bet there children die". Lives would would be no rush to ban certainly be saved if we shotguns - merely a cosmeric "tightening of control". Westbanned all guns, especially shotguns. I cannot see why minster would have cried, anyone "needs" to own a "Guns don't kill people, people shotgun, to get pleasure from do". A huge and lucrative industry depends on shotguns firing it at a live and inoffensive bird. I am told that and sporting rifles. Both are shooting birds is an exhilaratweapons designed to kill. So are the flick-knives freely on ing encounter with nature and sale in London, despite the gives pleasure to many Tory MPs. The Government recomments of the police at the gards targeting birds, rabbits trial of Philip Lawrence's murderer this week. Because or deer as a legitimate reason for "needing" a gun, but not handgun shooting is a largely proletarian sport, it is an easy sacrifice on the altar of targeting cardboard. Some people, vets, policement, farmers. need a pistol. I am tempted to ask, why this concern for cardboard but not ncidents such as Hunbirds? Handguns are widely gerford and Dunblane used in crime, but most of are so rare and so awful these are illegal already, and will be untouched by the new

as to form a poor basis for legislation. They will occur law. The real killer is the again, perhaps with a shot gun or a rifle. There is no law shotgun. In 1995 there were 83 accidental deaths. suicides that can be written against the cunning homicidal maniac. and homicides attributable to Will today's legislators hang their heads as an appalled shotguns. The equivalent figwonder what would have public demands to know why been the reaction had Hamilthese weapons were not also ton staged his massacre with a banned in 1996? No, they will

say a ban would have been "unrealistic". I feel no particular sympa-

thy for the handgun lobby. Some occupations may need dangerous weapons, but I am baffled by the machismo that turns using them into a source of pleasure, whether the target is birds, animals, clays or cardboard. But I am not a shooter, and my objection presumably holds against fencing and archery. If shooters can assure the public that their pleasure is harmless. then live and let live. Claiming that handguns are a menace and shotguns harmless is

ludicrous. The implication of this affair is clear. If there was a reason for criminalising gun owner-ship after Dunblane there was a reason before it. Policy cannot be based on one crazed killer's choice of weapon. Yet Parliament bows to a random incident and a bout of hysteria, and finds a weak lobby to hold scapegoat. A legislature is rotten that lurches into action only when goaded by acts of God - or in this case

Angelica Goodden on the decline of royal patronage

Kings collect art, not stamps

Tate Gallery's new Grand Tour exhibition. it is hard to believe that the British were regularly accused of philistinism in the 18th century. But they were, despite their enthusiasm for the antique and for the best of modern painting; and outside observers often begrudged the fact that the British could afford to buy so much, when they were clearly unable to appreciate it. If your own country was on the brink of revolution, it was infuriating to see the product of decades of British stability being spent on pictures you were being forced to sell because you desperately needed cash.

The British Royal Family appeared much keener to patronise art then than it does now, even though constitutional monarchies were thought not to need to show off as much as absolute ones did. They still required prestige, which is probably why George III made some spectacular art: the royal collection would be without all its Canalettos. Longhis and other Grand Tour favourites had there not been an artloving Consul in Venice to pass his collection on to the King. George IV became the greatest royal collector since Charles I, and persuaded his Government to create the National Gallery - long after other countries - as well as helping to secure the Elgin Marbles for the British Museum. But the splendid objects he amassed made him no more popular with his people, who had criticised his wild extravagance as a young man.

and went on criticising. It is unthinkable that a reflowering of art patronage might regain for the Crown the prestige it has lost over the last decade. But perhaps the monarchy has too easily abandoned the notion that courtspresuppose elitism and splendour, in favour of courting popular approval. At least some modern republicans might be quietened if the Crown's still considerable wealth were channelled into artistic patronage. Instead, that wealth is used to support extravagant royal lifestyles, while people grudgingly pay to inspect the fruits of past royal patronage in Bucking-ham Palace or Windsor Castle and elsewhere.

The rot set in with George V and stamp-collecting, to which he devoted three afternoons a week when he was in London. In philatelic terms, of course, the value of the 325 albums he left is incalculable. George VI continued his father's hobby, and his descendants have ensured that their stamp collection remains the greatest in the world. But what prophilately in comparison with art? It may be true that ordinary people can identify more fully with stamp-collecting than with picture-buying (now the preserve of very rich popular composers and advertising tycoons), and have little time to worry about the value of the liberal arts.

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The question, rather, is whether those who have the resources to impose such values should not try harder to do so - not merely to furnish a dolls' house with miniature paintings by leading artists of the day, as Queen Mary did. but to buy full-scale paintings. display them to public view. cate and refine taste. The British monarchy in the 20th century has been both a promoter and victim of bourgeois values - a paradox which now, as its own bourgeois values are found wanting. must make it yearn for the days of distant regality.

upporting the people's Scholce may mave whether ed consequences: whether er it means spending money on indifferent and retrograde architecture - the Prince of Wales's model village - or saving money by not patronising art. We are surely diminished as a nation by monarchs and monarchs-in-waiting who would not dream of building and furnishing a Carlton House, or employing a Nash to transform Brighton Pavilion, or otherwise rebut the old accusation of British philistinism. Even fewer can today afford to create a modern Grand Tour of Art than could afford to go on the Grand Tour in the 18th century, but those who can might at least share their treasures with the nation. Then the impoverished British could appear as exalted by art as the moneyed British managed to do 200 years ago returning with all their berry from the years abroad. The author is a fellow of St Hilda's College, Oxford.

Island fling

official visit from a British Foreign Secretary since it declared independence in 1960. At the end of November, Malcolm Rifkind will visit both Greek and Turkish representatives. About time, too, say the locals, who have grown tired of Britain neglecting them. despite it being one of the guarantors of Cypriot independence.

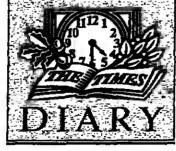


In 1983, Baroness Young, then a Foreign Office Minister, paid a visit to Cyprus a couple of months before Rauf Denktash declared independence in the north of the island for the Turkish Republic of Cyprus. In 1993, both John Major and Douglas Hurd visited Nicosia for a Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. But these visits were stop-offs without any

official function. The Foreign Office blames the difficulty of reaching a political settlement for the 36-year gap between official visits. Now Riffers has bumped the island up his shopping list, hoping that these forthcoming talks will catalyse Cyprus's tentative moves towards EU accession.

Goodbye!

NIGEL DEMPSTER, the Daily Mail gossip columnist, may be considered the greatest living Englishman but his name is no guarantee of success. The glossy be the party of Everyman, the Ref-magazine branded after him, erendum Party have chosen their

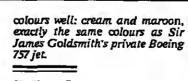


Dempsters, has folded after just two issues.

Exclusive, gushing interviews with the Duchess of York, praising her extraordinary taste, were the magazine's stock in trade, but they failed to capture the imagination of readers. Dempster this week distanced himself from the magazine. maintaining that he simply lent his name to the enterprise. Neville Shulman, editor of the

short-lived glossy, was shellshocked: "I don't know whether there's going to be another issue or not," he stammered. "You'd better ask someone else." But there was no one to turn to.

• Ever keen to show themselves to



ure for handguns was four.

Meritocracy

BRITAIN'S Polish community is throwing back vodka and slapping its thighs in celebration over an award to the Duke of Kent, a man tipped by its more romantic members as a future king of their

country.

After the unveiling of a portrait of the Duke by society dauber Basha Kaczmarowska Hamilton this week, the Polish Ambassador, His Excellency Ryszard Stem-plowski, announced that the Duke had been awarded the Polish Grand Cross of the Order of Merit. This was in recognition of "His Royal Highness's amicable dis-position towards the Poles".

As Lord Bethell points out in The Times Magazine today, General Władysław Sikorski in 1939 proposed making the Duke of Kent's father King of Poland as a symbolic bond to stiffen resistance to Hitler. The Poles used to elect their kings. and the present duke, who has been taking Polish lessons, is now being mooted as a possible candi-



the Devil.

Heather McCartney: potty

date. The Grand Cross of the Order of Merit is but a stepping stone.

In a spin

ANOTHER McCartney is making her way in the world of the arts, this time plastic rather than musical arts. Heather McCartney, eldest daughter of Paul, former Beatle, and Linda, the vegans' Billy Graham, has just launched her

own company in New York. She plans to make pots "in the age-old way of coiling ... by hand".

The ambitious Miss McCartney. who evidently wants to do for the pottery of the Tarahumara and Huichol tribes of Mexico, her main influences, what her father did for the Mersey beat, says: "My aim is

Catwalk King

homes all over the world."

TOM KING, former Secretary for Defence, has taken up modelling. Looking relaxed in a sweater, he has been posing for a catalogue lor a smart King's Road shop called Brora, which sells Scottish woollens. The item he is modelling so tastefully, with a springer spaniel called Bonnie nestling under his arm, is a light-green cashmere V-neck, a colour described as "Lovat".

"He is my sister's godfather." says Victoria Stapleton, the proprietor of the shop, by way of explaining her exalted model. King him-self considers his dog to be the star. "I was really in a supporting role to Bonnie," he says.

P·H·S



Tom King: jumper man



IT'S BAD TO STALK

But the law needs very careful drafting

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The American presidential debates have shown their merit

Nobody doubts the genuine distress that a stalker intent upon intimidaling his (or occasionally her) victim can inflict. Until now, it has been hard to secure criminal convictions for stalkers: the prosecution has had to prove either that the stalker intended to harass the victim or that the victim suffered psychological grievous bodily harm. A well drafted law against stalking could make successful prosecution easier, but a badly drafted one could have serious unintended consequences.

The new laws against stalking proposed yesterday by the Home Office Minister, David Maclean, have the merit of offering a graduated series of responses to the problem of stalking. First, a new civil remedy is offered under which a victim could gain an junction against a stalker. Then there are two criminal offences. The less serious -"the use of words or behaviour, on more than one occasion, which would cause the victim to be harassed, alarmed or distressed" -- carries a maximum penalty of six months' imprisonment or a £5,000 fine or both. The most serious - putting the victim in fear of violence - could lead to five years' in jail and an unlimited fine.

With all attempts, however worthy, to create a new crime, legislators should first ensure that innocent people will not suffer as a result. The dangers of creating a stalking offence are threefold: that those going legitimately about their business will be caught in the net, that people will be vengefully accused of stalking, or that their motives will be misinterpreted.

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As a newspaper, we are concerned that journalists investigating a story in the public interest could be caught by this legislation. As presently drafted, there will be a defence "acting reasonably and necessarily in

Most US political commentators have

pronounced themselves somewhat dissatis-

fied with the short set of presidential debates

that ended this week in San. Diego. They

claim the public knows no more about what

either man would do in office if elected than

beforehand. The discussions are said to have

been dull: no candidate has produced a

dramatic new policy, launched a blistering

attack, coined a memorable new slogan or

more appreciative than the political elite.

Tens of millions continue to watch despite ..

the dozens of alternative attractions pro-

vided by the US television industry. Voting

citizens regard them as a real opportunity to

compare their prospective leaders and

decide how comfortable they would be with

one or other in the Oval Office. Largely by

mass expectation, every election since 1976

has included at least one presidential debate.

By popular demand they are now

Despite the protestations of the pundits,

the gathering in San Diego told us a great

deal about the election of 1996. But it did so

through an unusual medium, the audience

themselves. The California debate was

conducted as a "town meeting" with a

representative sample of electors providing

the questions. What they asked, or did not

ask, throws much light on the reasons why

President Clinton is cruising to re-election

despite a record in office that can be fairly

institutionalised.

described as mixed.

committed a hugely embarrassing error. The American people, however, are rather pursuit of a business, trade or profession, or other lawful activity". It is to be hoped that reporters will not have to be taken to court and acquitted before the police accept that there is no ground for arrest.

There is also a chance that a vindictive victim" will accuse someone else of stalking as an act of revenge. Attention which might well have been welcome could suddenly be claimed to be harassment. Courts will need to demand evidence that victims made their displeasure clear to the "stalker".

The third danger is that criminals will be made out of harmless, lovesick people who cannot resist going to places where they hope to catch sight of their beloved, or who bombard them with flowers or gifts under the genuine impression that their target will eventually capitulate. At one end of this spectrum of behavior is the besotted adolescent, in the middle is the slightly creepy obsessive, and at the far end is the determined stalker. Drawing the line in the

right place may prove extremely difficult.

One remedy would be for the police to issue a "yellow card" warning to alleged stalkers before embarking on any further action. This would have the merit of avoiding the cumbersome machinery of the court, while alerting the lovesick that, even if they mean no harm, their victim is suffering as a consequence of their actions. In cases of false accusation, it would give the person concerned a chance to break contact with the accuser before being branded a criminal.

Because there is all-party consensus on the need for a law against stalking, there is a risk that legislation will be rushed through Parliament without sufficient consideration. Even if MPs agree on the principle, they should think hard about the practical application of such a Bill.

activists at the two national conventions -

were almost invisible. Only one participant

raised a matter of foreign relations, and that

related to the security of Israel. Mr Dole

would have welcomed more. Even the

economy had a modest profile, reflecting

broad satisfaction with the President's status

quo and renders Americans unwilling to

adopt the Dole-Kemp tax cuts. Possibly

more encouraging for Republicans, who fear a big Clinton win might assist Democrats on

Capitol Hill, Congress was not menboned

by the assembled voters.
Instead, it was the mainstream matters of

domestic politics that dominated the

proceedings. The future of Social Security,

Medicare, the state of the US health sector,

and employment law, figured strongly. In

all these instances; the President stressed the

popular position he had taken in the budget

battle of 1995, while Mr Dole struggled to

remind viewers how much they had disliked

the policies Bill Clinton had pursued in 1993

and 1994. If, as seems likely, the President

wins by a comfortable margin, this debate

will have provided a neat snapshot of the

The American experience should provide

ammunition for those who would like to see

British party leaders meet in a similar

format. If there is a problem with the US

example, it is that the election season is

almost the only time when debates of this

sort happen. Inevitably, therefore, they are

rather stilted in style. If, as we are regularly

told, the House of Commons is the finest

example of a deliberative chamber democ-

racy has yet produced, then our televised

product should be of a more vigorous

nature. Even if voters learnt nothing new

about their leaders, it would be worth the

experiment to see what new could be

discovered about themselves.

public mood that made it possible.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Widening targets on gun control

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From Mr D. T. Argent

Sir. The anti-gun lobby is to be congratulated on its substantial success freports. October 15, 16; see also letters, October 17), achieved by exploiting wholly understandable emotions and ensuring that no debate has actu-

ally taken place.
The media have been only too willing to assist, it being far easier to claim the moral high ground than coolly to address the many and com-plex issues involved. Indeed, simply to argue that there are conflicting interests to be balanced is to run the risk of being snecred at.

As a result, a large body of unerly law-abiding sportsmen and women are to be denied a safe and enjoyable pastime land in many cases their livelihaod1.

Do we really live in a society which believes, despite all the evidence, that all that is needed to stop something happening is to make it illegal?

Yours faithfully, D. T. ARGENT, Cobblers. Church Street, Rudgwick, Horsham, West Sussex. October 17.

From Mr Kim Swain

Sir. Now that it is clear that the Government intends to enact firearms leg-isladon in a way described by Lord Cullen as draconian (report, October 17), I would be interested to know what HM Treasury has to say. However distasteful it may seem, the Government does place a monetary value on human life,

This value, which it has told me is currently approximately £800,000, is used in economic appraisals of, for in-stance, road safety improvement schemes. An economic balance is sought to be struck between the cost of the works and the "savings", ie. fewer road-traffic accident casualties.

If the Treasury assessed the compensation, redundancy and other social costs resulting from implementing the gun control proposals (say halfway between an estimate of £140 million compensation which I have seen mentioned, and £1 billion put forward by those opposed to the measures), and assuming one occurrence like the tragedy at Dunblane every nine years (the duration between Hungerford and Dunblane), over say 30 years the cost to the Exchequer might be perhaps £400 million in real

The Government cannot satisfy both sides in this emotional, polarised debate. If it does press ahead with the edge that this is the price it believes British society should pay. In that case these funds might no longer be available to meet other deserving social needs, such as those of the aged, sick, infirm or disadvantaged.

KIM SWAIN, 20 Mutton Oaks, Binfield, Berkshire. October 18.

From Mrs Emma Temple

Sir, I spent the years 1976-82 as a member of a pistol club. I owned and kept at home three guns of the kind pictured in The Times today although later sold them. Before I gave up shooting I belonged to two clubs and took part in competitions in London and at other clubs in England and I

was able to go to Bisley at weekends

and shoot on the public ranges. Guns which are used a lot need constant cleaning and maintenance, and I preferred to do this quietly at home where I could take my time, rather than in a rush in the cramped gunroom at the club. I am not surprised at how few accidents there are as trainine and safety standards are high and all licensees are vetted.

Though I quite understand the wish of many to ban guns t am also sorry for the thousands of responsible peo ple who will have to give up their favourite sport.

Yours faithfully, EMMA TEMPLE, Lower Spargate Farm, Evercreech, Somerset. October 17.

From Mr James Darley

Sir, Some sensible restrictions on gun ownership seem long overdue, notably to crack down on the "Dirty Harry" and "Green Beret" fantasists, ele ments with which I believe the majority of the sporting shooting community like myself are deeply uncomfort-

But in banning most, or all target pistols we risk losing sight of the failure behind the Dunblane terror the police failure, in spite of signals and internal alerts, to enforce legislation that could have prevented such a

danger. When a Cabinet minister tells us. as Michael Heselone did last night on Question Time, that the new security regulations would be "rigorously enforced", we might be forgiven for a sense of dėja vu. I do not believe we can count on this. The firearms knowledge of most police officers seems woefully shallow.

Next time something goes badly wrong shall we again expect the police, press and politicians to clamour for further restrictions on lawful shooting sportsmen?

Yours truly. JAMES DARLEY. 39 Buckland Road, Buckland, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. October 18.

Importance of the old school tie in modern British life

From Sir Horace Phillips

Sir, If there is one area that vindicates William Ress-Mogg's dismissal of supposed predominance of class in modern British life ("Class polities is below the salt", October 14) it is surely the diplomatic service. From being in the past, and up to early this century. an chiist body in the social and educational context, it has gradually evolved as purely a meritocracy. This development owes much to Anthony Eden.

mentioned by Rees-Mogg.

Eden, an Etonian, saw for himself class differences sunk in First World War trenches, where he won the Military Cross. As Foreign Secretary dur-ing the Second World War he determirred that young men lighting for their country should afterwards be able to serve it in the diplomatic service if they wished, whatever their origins or incomes.

His proposals were set out in a White Paper in 1943. The new criterion for admission to the service would be success in a competitive written ex-amination and a searching assessment of personality. A candidate's school or university (if any) would not be a determining factor. He would pass or fail on the examination result.

This continues today and has led to the broadening of the service and the removal of class distinctions from it, No one in it ever judges a colleague by his social or educational background - and would certainly not make capital out of his own.

Yours faithfully, HORACE PHILLIPS (Diplomatic service, 1947-77). 34a Sheridan Road, Merton Park, SW19, October 14.

From Mr J. E. F. Clorke

Sir. William Rees-Mogg's central point, that the "old school tie" (ie. class] is of linle import in modern and thriving Britain, sounds rather wide of the mark. The senior reaches of British institutions - the City, the military, the legal and medical professions, the monarch's chosen courtiers and advisers etc - are thronged with products from the public schools. Mr Major seemed to have forgotten

both the background and aspirations of his immediate audience. Since when have most ambitious Tory middle-class people not striven or yearned for their children to have the demonstrable advantages of a public

Again, Major implied that a (humble?) grammar school education, such as he and Kenneth Clarke had, had not proved a disadvantage to their success at the commanding heights of political life. However, in spite of Clarke's and Blair's different initial schooling they share an even more po-tent source of widespread and assured success in modern Britain: Oxbridge, the ultimate finishing schools.

Yours faithfully. JAMES CLARKE, Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey. October 14.

From Mr A. J. Turner

Sir, Neither your columnists nor Conservative MPs have reason to criticise the Prime Minister for his "new Labour/old school tie" remark.

New Labour would make access to independent schools a privilege of the wealthy to a greater extent than for 50 years. Fees will go up if, as many peo-ple expect, Labour attacks their charitable status.

Labour would abolish the assisted places scheme, only saving sufficient money to (at best) put one extra teacher into every eight council schools. They would undermine the hard-won freedoms and better spending decisions of all state schools (grant-main-tained or council-run) by handing 10 per cent of their budget back to council officers to control.

Conservatives make no bones about their support for both state and independent schools. No Conservative therefore need be ashamed or embarrassed by either his own education or his decisions about the education of his children.

The Prime Minister's remarks remind electors of Labour's belief that what is good enough for themselves and their children is too good for the children of ordinary voters.

Your obedient servant. ANDREW TURNER (Director, Grant Maintained Schools Foundation). 32 New High Street. Headington, Oxford. October 14.

From Mr John D. Hort

Sir. Peter Riddell says [October 12] that John Major "should be careful about attacking people from privileg-ed backgrounds: almost three fifths of his Cabinet sitting behind him went to public schools, including three Old Etonians".

I watched the whole of the Prime Minister's speech on television and it was quite clear to me that he was not attacking such people: he was attacking those who, having enjoyed the opportunity of such an education themselves, wish to deprive other children - except their own, of course - of the chance to benefit from an "elite" edu-

In this respect new Labour is following the tradition of old Labour when its ministers, themselves the products of independent or grammar schools, sought to impose the straitjacket of comprehensive education upon the whole country, with the support of the chattering classes of the time. They, of course, had the advantage of the same educational background.

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Yours faithfully, JOHN D. HART. Hill House, Marlesford, Wickham Market, Woodbridge, Suffolk. October 16.

From Mr Hugh M. Lowe

Sir. Before the election campaign really gets going, would Mr Major make at least one thing absolutely clear: does he sneer at everyone who wears an old school de or only at Tony Blair?

Yours faithfully, HUGH M. LOWE, 36 Fontwell Close, Rustington, West Sussex. October 16.

From Mr John Hobbs

Sir, Opinions may differ about the wisdom of Mr Major's reference to new Labour/old school tie, but surely no one can doubt that the Tory party is above class when he reads of Aircraftman Mogg selflessly toiling in the ranks between Charterhouse and Balliol.

Yours faithfully. JOHN HOBBS. 126 Gurney Close, Barking, Essex. October 14.

Reflection on 'Thought for the Day'

From Mr Mike Lawlor --- From the Head of Religious

Sir, As an ordinary man in the pew of Broadcasting, BBC Ireland, I was taken aback at the Thought for the Day given by Mrs Anne Atkins on the Today programme on Radio 4 (letters, Octo-

If our morning spiritual reflections are to consist of the trumpeting of the faults and perceived sins of other Christians, then perhaps it would be better not to have such intrusions into our only quiet and reflective time of the day, be it shaving or stuck in

crawling traffic.
Could I suggest that we have a Thought for the Day on a Quaker model - a period of silence while we reflect on some truth or portion of scripture or Talmud or Koran. How about starting with Manhew vii, I: "Judge not, that ye may not be judged". Mrs Atkins and all of us should reflect on

Yours sincerely.
MIKE LAWLOR, 31 Carysfort Hall, Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin. October 16.

Sir. I am pleased to know that the Reerend Eric Sliegog believes that Mrs Anne Atkins is entitled to her views on homosexuality (letter, October 12), but regret that he appears unwilling to allow her to express them on BBC

Thought for the Day invites contributors to reflect on current events from the perspective of religious faith. Mrs Anne Atkins's absolutist view of scripture may be a minority view among British Christians, but she is by no means alone and she has just as much right to be heard as those other contributors who have expressed the

Day. Yours faithfully. ERNEST REA. Head of Religious Broadcasting, Briosh Broadcasting Corporation, New Broadcasting House.

contrary view on Thought for the

PO Box 27, Oxford Road, Manchester M60 I5J. October 15.

'Burke's Peerage'

From Mr Brion Morris

this, perhaps.

Sir, Mr Peter Townend (letter, October III asks why, when Mr Brooks-Baker describes himself (October 2) as Publishing Director of Burke's Peerage, he does not direct someone into publishing this book again.

The answer is that Mr Brooks-Baker does not own the rights to Burke's Peerage & Boronetage (to give it its full and correct oile). I do. Mr Brooks-Baker may own the rights to other of the former Burke's series of publications - in panicular the Burke's Peerage World Book of

Smiths, Joneses or whoever, which he is currently promoting - but that is

I bought the rights to Burke's Peerage & Boronetage some seven years ago. A team of editors and genealogists funded by me has been pre-paring a new edition since 1994. It is due for publication in the winter of

Yours faithfully, **BRIAN MORRIS** (Managing Director) Morris Genealogical Books, 7 Rue du Bugnon. 1299 Crans, Switzerland. October 12

lives are genetically mapped out for the future, the population will be divided between those whom insurance companies wish to insure and those

that a good set of genes negates the need for life insurance and, with a major slice of their cake gone, companies would suffer.

Could this be the death of life insurance?

RODERICK S. MacDONALD, I Loaninghill Park. Uphall Broxbum, West Lothian. October 17.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephooe oomber. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

Right to privacy From Mr Dovid Sagor

Sir, Lord Cranbome's assemion, tamicle, October II) that Britain doesn't rights and freedoms because our citizens have them anyway, is put into question in one respect in your Law Reports of the same day. The Broadcasting Complaints Commission case confirms that there is no general right of privacy as such.

Thus many people and their families suffer because of the Government's reluctance to afford them the protection of a law which is available in other countries. Is it not time to confer a legal right of individual privacy with exceptions to protect the public interest, and with remedies in dainages as well as injunctions to prevent harmful publicity in advance?

Yours faithfully. DAVID SAGAR. 51 Cadogan Gardens, SW3.

Practical praise

From Mrs P. A. Mills

Sir. t was amazed to read that some members of a Norfolk church are objecting to the hymn Autumn Days (reports, October 10 and 14). As a leacher and theology graduate I have been singing this hymn with enjoyment for years.
Why should God not be thanked for

man's skill in refuelling jets in mid-air? I am quite sure that if the objectors were indeed in a mid-air emergency they would be invoking God in no uncertain manner.

Yours faithfully. PAULINE A. MILLS. 34 Holmfield Avenue, Stoneygate, Leicester. October 14.

Dim view

From Mr P. M. Cullinane

Sir. If Mr Alun Morgan fletter, October 17: see also letter, October 101 were to visit Eastern Europe, he would add a bathplug to his hotel sur-

Old hands take two or three, of different sizes.

Yours faithfully P. M. CULLINANE, 9 Hilda Court, Lovelace Road, Surbiton, Surrey. October 17.

From Mr Reg Conion

Sir, To increase his chances of survival I urge Mr Morgan to include a portable fire extinguisher in his hotel survival kit if he is given to plugging his own 100 watt bulb into most of the bedside lamps which ornament the rooms of the businessman's hotel.

Yours etc. REG CONLON. 1 The Compasses, High Street. Clophill, Bedfordshire. October 17.

Not a single citizen wanted answers on the various scandals that have dogged the First Couple and the Administration, to the evident frustration of Robert Dole who would have dearly loved the debate to be cast in those terms. The issues of abortion and welfare reform - which so galvanised

HALF TERM REPORT

It is half-term, and there is gridlock on the roads. The cases are packed, and so are the airports. And for the next week, secretaries across the country will have their inventiveness tested as they try to explain the absence of the managing director, the chief accountant and most of the board members who are on what might be called an extended youth seminar - or, more accurately, taking the kids away for the half-term break. The ancient feast of Michaelmas, that broke up the long autumn of work, has been unofficially revived. Half-term has descended on Britain as the newest, least

publicised and probably most welcome holiday of the year. Until about 15 years ago the autumn term. the longest in the school year, was three months of unbroken slog, and mothers could look forward to washing muddy soccer shorts from Harvest Festival until Christmas, with only a long weekend off in mid-October. Union power, however, skilfully allied to specious arguments about school maintenance, changed all that. Would not a full week off give teachers the time for valuable in-service training, schools a chance to arrange their football tours and pupils the opportunity to go for their Duke of Editiourgh awards? Independent schools which prided themselves on a holiday timetable that bore little relation to the state sector - were rapidly convinced. A unified.

10-day national holiday was born. Half-term plays havoc with office etiquette. Proud executives, all braces, shirt-

The new time to pack the suitcases and the motorways sleeves and macho determination to leave the office last, are unusually vulnerable to the half-term pitch. "Would it be all right if I could just take this week off? It's for the kids, you know. Promised last year we'd take them to Disneyland, and I've been away so much recently ..." Guilt, of course, is the deciding factor. Every top manager knows that he or she should be spending more "quality time" with their two young children. Every working mother frustrated by the hours away from home sees a welcome chance for a family get-together or a surprise

trip abroad. Half-term now is parents' national truant week. The only people left in offices are those without children. Even they are quick with implausible stories of nieces and nephews coming for a visit. The fact that so many are now on second or third marriages has brought the eastern pattern of the extended family to the heart of British office life. There are always children from this or that marriage who are home from school. The Child Support Agency could spare itself hours of expensive sleuthing by simply taking a head-count of who is supposedly

away this week with the children. Nevertheless, the holiday is not quite official - yet. It is still a secret of those who can afford an extra break in the cold days of Autumn. Better then, to argue that the entire week is a selfless devotion to parental duty, and has nothing to do with the wish to sneak away while the last rays of sun are still around.

In the risk business

From Mr Roderick S. MacDonald

Sir, If, as it may come to pass, our they do not.

Perhaps the former could conclude

Yours sincerely,

Weekend Money letters, page 41

Going, going, gone

From Mr Martin Wyness

Sir. If ever there was proof needed that Western governments can be bought, either wholly or piecemeal, you do not have to look further than New Zealand and your report "Maori MP holds key to New Zealand coalition" (October 14).

In the past there has been so much to look up to in that country, particularly her gutsy stance on nuclear issues. It is sad indeed to see her reduced to the level where one politician can hold the country to ransom. The fact that this man has openly called for bidders from both likely ruling parties to buy his vote, thereby sealing victory for the party with the largest carrot, is abhorrent.

ple hoping for a decent democracy in aspiring industrial countries. Welcome to market forces.

This must come as a shock for peo-

Yours laithfully. MARTIN WYNESS. 1 The Common, Windermere, Cumbria. October 14.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE October 18: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning arrived at Tower Pier and were received by the Resident Governor of Her Majesty's Tower of London (Major General Geoffrey Field) and the Chairman. Port of London Authority (Sir Brian Shound

Her Majesty and His Royal High-ness embarked in the new Thames passenger vessel. Millennium of London, and were received by the Directors of City Cruises (Mr Paul Wilson, Mrs Rita Beckwith and Mr Gary Beckwith). The Queen named Millennium of

Her Majesty and His Royal High-ness subsequently travelled upriver to Westminster Pier. The Queen's Bargemaster and Watermen were on duty. The Duke of Edinburgh, Master, this afternoon attended a Luncheon RI Trinity House. Tower Hill, London

His Royal Highness, President, World Wide Fund for Nature — WWF International, this evening attended the Wildscreen 1996 Award

Old Millhillians Club

On Friday, November 8, 1996, the Club are pleased to be hosting the North West Dinner at St James's Club, Charlotte Street, Manchester, Principal guest speakers will be the Headmaste and the President of the Club, Old Millhillians wishing to Bittend should contact Peter Huston, 33 Rivington Road, Altrincham. Cheshire, WAI5 9PJ, 0161 94f 1318, for more information.

Painter-Stainers' Company

The following have been installed officers of the Painter-Stainers' Company for the ensuing year.
Master. Mr Godfrey Frederick Jacobe. Upper Warden, Mr Reginald Charles Houghton: Renier Warden, Mr Robert George Glover.

and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Licutenant of the City of Bristo

October 18: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon visited St George's School, Windson

October 18: The Duke of Kent, President the Stroke Association, this morning visited the Stoke Research Unit, University of Nottingham, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's

His Royal Highness this afternoon

visited Nottingham City Hospital, Hucknall Road, Nottiogham,

Royal engagement

TOMORROW: The Prince of Wales,

as President of WaterAid, will be the host at a reception at Baltmoral Castle at 12.30.

Lond-Lieutenant of Nottingha

KENSINGTON PALACE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

YORK HOUSE

Nottinghamshire.

Plumbers' Company The following have been installed officers of the Plumbers' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr C.D. Smith: Upper Warden, Mr F.R. Brunner. Renier Warden, Mr E.W. Hopkinson.

Service dinner

HMS Nelson
Mr Raymond Baxter proposed the toast to The Immortal Memory at a Wardroom Mess Trafalgar night dinner last night in HMS Nelson. Communder J.R. Wills presided. The Roman Catholic Bishop of the Forces. Air Vice-Marshal J.C. French. Mr Stephen Howarth and Mr Robert Siddall were among the guests. Mr Julius Silverman

The Mayor of Camden attended a memorial meeting to celebrate the life and work of Mr Julius Silverman, Chairman of the India Silverman, Chairman of the India League and a Freeman of the City of Birmingham, held yesterday at India House, Aldwych. Dr L.M. Singhvi, Indian High Commis-sioner, Mr Michael Foot, president of the league, Mr Robin Corbett, MP. Mr Stanley Forman and Mr SN Gourisaria, honorary Mr S.N. Gourisaria, honorary general secretary, paid tribute.

Dr Kevin Keohane A memorial celebration for the life of Dr Kevin Keohane will be held BI SI George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Southwark, on Friday, November 8, at 11.00am. Friends and colleagues will be welcome and those wishing to attend should, if they have not already done so, contact Mrs I.S. Hall, The Nuffield Foundation, 28 Bedford Square, London, WCIB

Reception

3EG (017) 631 0566).

The MECAS Association The MECAS Association held a reception in the India Office Council Chamber at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on Tuesday evening by courtesy of Mr Anthony Layden, Honorary Secretary. Sir Harold Walker, president, Sir Donald Maitland,

past president and past instructors

and course members of the Middle East Centre for Arab Studies were

Weekend birthdays

mer High Court Judge, 78: Professor Sir Robert Boyd, physicist and astronomer. 74: Mr Matthew Carrington, MP, 49; Dr David Clark, MP, 57: Sir John Cullen, Comment Medicary, Marchael Me former chairman, Health and Salety Commission, 70; Mr Phil Davies, rugby player, 33; Mr John
Evans, MP, 66; the Very Rev.
David Frayne, Provost of Blackburn, 62; Mr Bernard Hepton,
actor, 71; Mr Paul Holmer, diplomat, 73; Mr S.L. James, former senior partner, Simmons and Simmons, 66; Sir Robert Jennings, QC, former president, Inter-national Court of Justice, 83; Mr John le Carré, writer, 65; Mr Graham Lock, former chief exec-utive, Amalgamated Metal Cor-poration, 65; Mr Bill Morris, trade unionist, 58; Miss Mavis Nicholson, broadcaster, 66; Admiral of the Fleet Sir Michael Pollock, 80; Sir Allan Ramsay, diplomat, 59; Air Chief Marshal Sir Anthony Skingsley, 63; Sir Harold Walker, diplomat, 64; Major Sir Patrick Wall, former MP, 80; Mr Peter Whiston architect 84

TOMORROW: Sir James Ackers. former chairman, West Midlands Regional Health Authority, 61; Sir

Whiston, architect, 84.

British Technology Group, 70; Mr Hume Boggis-Rolfe, former deputy secretary, Lord Chan-cellor's Office, 85; Sir Edwin Bolland, diplomat. 74; Mr Chris Cowdrey, cricketer, 39, Professor Sir Bernard Crossland, mechanical engineer, 73; Mr Lawrence Daly, trade unionist, 72; Professor Sir Douglas Hague, former chairman, Economic and Social Research Council. 70: the Very Rev James Harkness, former Moderator, General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 61: Mr Austen Kark, former managing-director, BBC External Broadcasting, 70; Mr Eddie Macken, showjumper, 47; Judge Deirdre McKinney, 68; Miss Enid Marx, painter and designer, 94; Mr J.G.

Milne Home, former Lord-Lieutenant of Dumfries and Gallo-way, 80; Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, 70; Sir Anthony Reeve. diplomat, 58: Mr Ian Rush, footballer, 35; Professor S.B. Saul, former Vice-Chancellor, York University, 72; Sir William Shapland, chartered accountant, 84: Sir Alexander Stirling, dip-lomat, 70; the Hon Eruma Tennant, writer, 59; Mr Timothy

Weekend anniversaries

TODAY BIRTHS: Sir Thomas Browne, physician and writer, London, 1605 (he also died this day, Norwich, 1682); Auguste Lumière, pioneer of motion pictures, Besanton, 1862.

DEATHS: King John, reigned 1199-1216, Newark, Nottinghamshire, 1216; Jonathan Swift, satirist, Dublin, 1745; Henry Kirke White, poet. Cam-bridge, 1806; Ernest Rutherford, Baron Rutherford of Nelson, physi-cist, Nobel laureale 1908, Cambridge, 1077. Jerusalina de Data artist 1937: Jacqueline du Pré, cellist, London, 1987, Surrender of British troops ended America's War of Independence, 1781.

Napoleon began his retreat from Moscow, 1812.

West, actor, 62,

BIRTHS: Sir Christopher Wren. architect and scientist, East Knoyle, Wiltshire, 1632. Henry John Temple, 3rd Viscount Palmerston. Prime Min-ister 1855-58 and 1859-66, Broadlands. Hampshire, 1784; Thomas Hughes, author of Tom Brown's Schooldays. Uffington, Berkshire, 1822; Arthur Rimbaud, poet, Charleville, 1854. DEATHS: Arthur Henderson, Labour Party leader and statesman. Nobel Peace laureate 1934, London, 1935; Herbert Hoover, 31st American President 1929-33, New York, 1964; Sheila Scott, aviatrix. London. 1988. The boundary between Canada and the United States was established at the 49th Parallel, 1818.

Dinners

Middle Temple Mr Michael Sherrard, QC, Trea-surer of the Middle Temple, and the Masters of the Bench entertained at dinner in hall on Thurs-day evening, it being Grand Day of Michaelmas Term. Among

of Michaelmas Ierm. Among those present were:
The Master of the Rolls and Lady Woolf. Lord Justice Peter Gibson (treasurer, Lincoin's Inn), General Bir Peter de la Billière, Sir Peter Pain, Lady (Ludwick Kennedy, Miss Carol Ellis, Qc. Miss Kate Adle, Mr E G Nugee, Qc freasurer, Inner Templel, Mr Conzad Dehn, Inner Templel, Mr Conzad Dehn, Mr Schertard, Mr David Penny-Dawey, Qc. (treasurer, Gray's Inni, Mrs Schertard, Mr David Penny-Dawey, Qc. Miss Averil Marks, Mr Peter O Brooks, Mr Ian Hay Davison, Mr Joshua Rozenberg, Mr Jonathan Papp and Engadier C T W Wright Junder freasurer) and Mrs Wright.

Guild of Freemen

of the City of London Sir Anthony Grant, MP. enter-tained members of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London and their guests at dinner last night at the House of Commons. Sir An-thony and Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Buchanan, master of the guild. were the speakers.

Broderers' Company The Master of the Broderers, Mr

Bryan Toye, presided at the annual Associated Companies dinner of the Broderers' Company held on rsday, October 17, Rt Mercers' Hall in the presence of the Master of the Mercers' Company, Mr J.D. Hedges, the Master of the Masons' Company, Mr B.M. Woodman and the Master of the Cooks' Company, Mr J.B. Kane. The principal guests were the Right Hon Lord Weatherill, the Right Hon Sir Stephen Brown and Lord Jeffreys.

Fountain Court Chambers Mr Peter Scott, QC, the Head of Fountain Court Chambers, was the host at a dinner held at The Wallace Collection last night to celebrate their judicial appointments in the last year. Those honoured were Lord Bingham of Cornhill (Lord Chief Justice), Lord Justice Brooke, Lord Justice Potter. Mr Justice Morison, Mr Justice Langley, Mr Justice Timothy Walker and Mr Justice Gibson.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Bonker and Miss H. Black The engagement is announced between Terence, son of Mr and Mrs William Murra Kenilworth, Warwickshire Митгау. О Harriette, daughter of His Honour Judge Barrington Black and Mrs Black, of Hampstead, London.

Mr P.D. Bowron and Miss U.C. Ledingham The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs

David Bowron, of Stokesley, North Yorkshire, and Clare, daughter of Professor and Mrs John Ledingham, of Oxford. Dr S.M. Elliott

and Dr R.M. Malin The engagement is announced between Sean, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Elliott, of Boxford. Suffolk, and Rachel, younger daughter of Professor and Mrs Stuart Malin, of Blackheath.

London.

Mr P.J. Keys and Miss K. Barton The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of Mrs Pamela Beaver, of Penth, Australia. and of Mr John Keys, of Gallowstree Common. Oxfordshire, and Karen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Barton, of New Haw, Surrey. Mr H.W.H. Killen and Miss A.J. Purvis

The engagement is announced between Hugh, eldest son of Mr and Mrs William Killen, of Sydney. Australia. and Andrea. daughter of Mr and Mrs David Purvis, of Cambridge. Commander T.F.W. Martin, RN.

and Miss K.M. Haig The engagement is announced between Tim, son of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Freddie Martin of Alverstoke, Hampshire, and Karen, elder daughter of the late Mr 'John' Haig and of Mrs Beryl Haig, of Taunton, Somerset, and formerly of Kenya.

Mr M. Norris-Hill and Miss 2.L.G.G. Smale
The engagement is announced and Miss Z.L.G.G. Smale

between Manhew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peier Norris-Hill, of Beauworth. Hampshire, and Zoe, daughter of Mr Christopher Smale and the late Mrs Wendy Smale, of Guildford, Surrey.

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Mr K.C. Robin and Miss N. Courtenay-Luck The engagement is announced between Mr Kerry C. Robin and Miss Natasha Courtenay-Luck. eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs P.G. Courtenay-Luck, of The White House Denham Village, Buckinghamshire.

Mr T.D. Wright and Miss E.B. Woodruff The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of Mr Thomas Wright, of Wilmington, North Carolina, and Mrs Carolyn Wright, of Binham, Norfolk, and Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Spofford Woodruff,

Marriage

of Bristol, Rhode Island.

Ų. Mr H. Channor and Miss H. Towill The Duke of Kent was present at the marriage which took place on Saturday, October 12, 1996, at Chelsea Old Church, London, of Mr Henry Channon, son of the Right Hon Paul Channon, MP. and Mrs Channon, to Miss Henrietta Towill, daughter of Mrs Arthur Boyd-Rochfort and the late Mr David Towill. The Rev Dr

Peter Elvy officiated. The bride, who was given in marriage by her stepfather, Mr Arthur Boyd-Rochfort, was attended by the Hon Mary Charteris, Anna Hesketh, Violet Hesketh, Frank Hesketh, Amber Guinness, Claudia Guinness and Tara Guinness. Mr Hugo Baring was best man.

ishephardi: 6.30 Choral E. Hassier Tone V. iPlainsong, Mine eyes for beauty pine (Howells). The Provosi.
ARMAGR CATHEORAL: 10 HC: 11 Euch. Cellic Eucharist. Saviour ni the world (Gossi; 3.15 E. Wood in C. minor. O Lorde the maker Boubern.
BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 Choral Communion, Jackson in In G. Locus Iste IBJUSCHORI, 3.40 ROSPA service.
BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch. Mass for Jour volces (Taills). God be in my beau lashiletid. Rev J Waierstreet. 4 Choral E. Sheppard (first service), Laudem dicite.
BIRLINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch. Mass for Jour volces (Taills). God be in my beau lashiletid. Rev J Waierstreet. 4 Choral E. Sheppard (first service), Laudem dicite.
BIACCEMPRIC CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral E. The Second Service (Byrd). Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley). The Provost. BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 Hot lett.; 11 Mc; 11 Choral E. The Second Service (Byrd). Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley). The Provost. BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 HO; 10 Euch. 11 Mc; 11 Euch. 11 Mc; 12 Euch. 12

Visitor: 6.30 Evening, Canon O Conway.
CHICKESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. 10 M. Ireland
In F. How beauteous are their leet (Stanford), Rev J
Gilling: 11 S Euch. Ave verum (Elgar), Rev M
Insley: 3.30 E, Second Service (Bytt), And 1 saw a
new beaven filshinon. Inning: 11 Sect. Ave verum (again, sev m insier; 3.30 E. Second Service (Bytt), and I saw a new beaven (Bainton).

CHAIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL Oxford: 8 HC. 10 M & Sermon. Deat: 11.5 Sect. Miess in Simplishine (Langish, Archdesconct, Oxford: 8 HC. 10 M & Sermon. Deat: 11.5 Sect. Miess in Simplishine (Langish, Archdesconcet, Oxford: 6. COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP. B Communion: 10.30 Botch. Missa Brevis (Morzari, One World Week, Very Rev. J. Petry, S.30 E. Sumsion in G. O. How glorious (Harvood); 7 City Celebration. Durkham Cathedral: 8 HC. Canon M Petry; 10 M. Boyce in C. Give a jimes of inly goods (Iye, Canon R Coppin: 11.15 HC. Jackson in E. Tierce en iailie (Grigny), Canon M Petry; 3.30 E. Howelts in B minor, Vallant for truth (Vaughan Williams), Exeter Cathedral: 8 HC. Jackson in E. Tierce en iailie (Grigny), Canon M Petry; 3.30 E. Howelts in B minor, Vallant for truth (Vaughan Williams), Exeter Cathedral: 8 HC. Jackson in E. Tierce en iailie (Grigny), Canon M Petry; 3.30 E. Howelts in B minor, Vallant for truth (Vaughan Williams), Service, Britten in C. The Lind is my Shepherd Schuberd, The Oean; 3 E. Harvood in A flat, inspared to the secure Hispoth, May Shepherd, Could Forth C. Lander Common (Lander), Could Forth C. Attended in F. The Deap: 3 E. The Gloucester Service (Sanders), Festival Te Deum (Balachy), Cullafond Cathedral, Leithun, Cathedral, Leithun, Cathedral, Leithun, Almighty God (Ford), Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun, Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun Mrs W Hash; 11.15 M, Jubilate in F. (Ireland), Leithun Mrs W Granders), Educorke, Leithun Allendan, Leithun Mrs W Granders), Educorke, Leithun A. Leithun Mrs W Granders, Leit

Missa Collegium Regale (Howells), Jubilate from Collegium Regale, Cétul qui manage de ce pain (Goding), Rev D Brockbang, 3.50. E Harwood in A faat. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me (Sigar).

Lincolo, CattleBoral, 7.45 L 3, 12.30 HC. 9.30 S Euch, Missa brevis Saned Joannis de Do Joannis de Joannis de Do Joannis d

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEBRAL: 10.30 Divine Littury. Kievan and traditional polyphony, Diocean Bishop Memophitan Ashepping, Diocean Bishop Memophitan Ashepping, Diocean Bishop Memophitan Ashepping, Diocean Bishop Memophitan Ashepping Control of the Lord Linguist Control of Shephard, Conon E James 2.45 Boys' Brigade service, Rev J Puckard 4 EP, 63.01 Healthcare, Dr M Whilip, The Splitt of the Lord Leigari. Bourthwalk CATHEDRAL 9 Euch. Conon R Royle 11 Choral Buch. Sumsion to F. My soul there is a country (Parry), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Canon M Kitchen; 3 Choral E. Stanford. And I saw a new heaven Basimoni. Bishop ol Ey, South-Well Minster, 745 Luany, B HC, 9.30, parsh communion, Chancellor, 11 M. Te Deum (Smart In F), Jubilate Croft in Al, O God my King (Ammer), Precentor, 3.15 E. Stantam In E minor, O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Howelis). TRURO CATHEDRAL B HC, 9 M. 10 S Euch, Missa Acterna Christi Munera (Palestina), If ye on the Communion, Canon I Knott II Solerna Buch, Cumon G Naim-Briggs, 6.30 E. Canon O Baster. Wells CATHEDRAL B HC, 9.45 Euch, Darke In E. Hear O my Lord (Whillock), Rr Rey I Thompson: II.30 M, Sandrott In B flat, O Almighty God (Bartrofie); 3 E. Jackson h G. And I saw a new heaven (Bailhion), Pro P West, Westminster Abbely, B HC, (Lon Calleghur Regale, (Howells, Sing Joyfully Byrd, Canon C Semper, 11.15 Euch, Colleghur Megale, Colleghur Regale, Colleghur Regale, Colleghur Welland, Rev J

6.30 Rev A Monyer.
THE ANNUNCLATION, Bryanston St. W|: | 1
Solemn Mass. O God thou are my God (Purcell).
THE ASSUMPTION, Warnylck Street, W|: | 1
Missa O regett coell (Palestrina), Look down O
Lord (Byrd), Any vertum (Wilton).
CREISEA OLD CHURCH. SWI: B.12.15 HC; 10
Children; | 1 M, My soul there is a country (Party).

RI Rev COOKE 6 E. Rev DT P EIVY.

HOLY TRENSTY BROMEFION. Brumpion Road.
SWAT ASS 1. The Second State 1. Family. Mr J

SWAT ASS 1. The Second State 1. Family. Mr J

HILL OBJACT THE SECOND STATE STAT Church services tomorrow SIMMONS 6.30 Rev B FENION,
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL B HC: 10.34 M, Rev
A Walker 11.30 Each: 3.30 E, Rev E WOODS,
YORK MINSTER 8.8.45 HC: 10 S Euch, Missa
neves in C. Rev J O'Sborne: 11.30 M, Stanford in C.
4 E, HOWELS IN G, HYMN to the Mother of God
(Taventer), Rev I Pox.
ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: B RC: 11 Chorni
Euch, Mass of the Quiet Hour joldroyd), Ave
verum corpus (Byrd), Canon B Jones, 3.30 EP.
ST GEORES' CATHEDRAL, Southware B.10.6
LM; 11.30 Solemn Mass, Mass in G (Nocart), U ye
love me (Tallist, Fr G Fardley,
ST GILES' CATHEDRAL Beliaburgh: B HC. The
Minister, 10 Missa brevis (Palestina), Minister;
11.20 UP Sertice, Minister, SI Giles at SD. Jan
Laing, Violin B, Rev J Williams,
ST MACHARYS CATHEDRAL 11, Thy perfect love
(Runer), Junisian Deo (Stanford), Rev O
Molymon's Care of Dea.
11 S Elbh, Mass for the voices (Byrd), Let all
montal flesh beep silence (Balmaroy), Veri G
Cassidy, 3.15 E, Nayfor in A, Let all the world in
every corner sing O'aughan Williams], Rev T
Thornton's 1,51 verbal.

ALL SOULS: Laughans Place, W: 9 Communion
Service 11 Rev B Reves with Ast Souls' Consecutive. ALL SOULS: Langhant Place, W1: 9 Communion Service: 11 Rev R Bewes with All Souls' Orchestra; 6.30 Rev A Motyer,

ST AOHN'S, Stratford, 11 Family Communion, Foccute in G (Dubois), Rev M Okelfo. ST LIKES, Cheises, SW3: 113.00 Con lirmation 65 Euch. O clap your hands (Gibbons). The Bishop of Landon: 12.15 Hc: 8-30 E, O God thou an my God (Purcell). Ber G Beauchamp. Furcelli, Rev G Beauchamp, Rd. NW1: B HC: 945
family community: 15 Euch, Little Organ Mass
Haydin, How lovely are thy dwelling, Israhms,
Rev L Phillips.
ST MARGARETS. Westeminster, SW1: 11 S Euch,
Masses Solveile Hanglals), O Sacrum convices
(Messisten), Rev Cowel,
ST MARGARETS. Westeminster, SW1: 11 S Euch,
Masses Solveile Hanglals), O Sacrum convices
(Messisten), Rev Cowel,
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS. WC2. B HC 11.50
9-45 Euch; Rev C Herbert; 11 30 Ministry, ViCas;
12.50 HC, Rev W Rachford: 24 Chinese, Rev
Extra Marty Arthoris. Revaluation WS: 4, 13.00 HC:
9-40 Parist Euch, Vicas; 11,15 Choral M. Vicas;
6-30 E, I Buston.

T MARTY-HIPSURGIN, Primme Hill: 8 HC.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

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acquiry manufacts in Canada for 3 children, live-b, non supplex valid drivers Reance and references estential. Starting December, Separase apartment roun, heard, salary and ca provided. Call Coll 613 722 5990 9-5 Monday to Saturday

HISTRIAN Women (30), diplome nurse, wishes to stey with Rog-lish family for 1 year. Bonse-work, childrare, or estanty nursing Write in Degmar Jeen, Express 7, A-6464 Tamenr, Austria/Per 0043 5412 54893.

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GARCHPER WALTER JAMES of 5 Fond HEI Halberton Devon died on the 11th day of June 1996; Particuleus to Nichalm Huber & Co. Selichom of 23 Newport Street Theraton Devon Exil 6 (RL before the 15th December 1996.

KLUCER, FANNIE of 63 New Mansions, Dalaton Larry, Lo 18 died on 22 JUly 1995 pa lws to DOWSE & CO Solicho 229/238 CAMDEN STREET, STREET, LONDON NWI

MITCHELL JOHN WILLIAM of B The Rys, Exces hear Demotable, Bedfordshire that on 4 July 1996 MITTHEW ARRIGID & RAIDWING MITTHEW of 20 STATION ROAD, WALFORD, HIRE'S WOI 1 JH before 20 December 1996.

SMITH, KENNETH VADGHAM of 51 Everby House, Retland Gate, Louden SWY 136 Gied on 7 June 1976 particulary to TALOR (DUNGOW GAURITY Solicitors of PARCHAMPAN CONTROL CONTROL OF THE WATCH LONDOW ROY ON CREE ACC. ADEL DESCRIPTION CREE ACC. ADEL DESCRIPTION CREE ACC.

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DEATHS Malachi 2 : 10

BIRTHS BARMFATHER - On October 11th, 1976, to Susan (née Lundstram) and John, God's gift of e son, Seth David, a

hrother for Lnke and BAVEITA On 25th September, to Paula (nee Eustanca) and Sab, a daughter, Isabelle Dom, a

BAYUSS - On October 18th, to Sarah and Jonathan, e son, Charles Bobert Bowes. BUCHAMAN - On October 18th in Perth, Australia, to Texa (née Weston) and Jamie, e son, Sam.

CARTER - On 16th October 1996, at P.13 am, to Claim (née Etlis) and Peul, e daughter, Lucy Alexandra.

JOHNSTON STEWART - On Seplomber 2Btb, to Josephine (nee Carry) and Hamish, e son, Dougal State, a brothar for Archie and

MORRIS - On 16th October, to Patrice (née Collins) and Philip, e daoghtar, Mory Coeffic

RUSSELL - On Saturday 12th October 1996, Imagen (née Mason) and Nicholas are delighted to amounce the errival of a dengater, Ameracia Sitabeth at Forth Fark Hospital, Kirkcaldy.

Hennah are pleased to amounce the birth of their

STEYM - On 1st October, to Tanya and David, a daughter, Sophia Rebecca, a sister for Elisabeth and lames. SULLIVAN - On October 17th in Norwich, to Maryanne and Seen, a beautiful daughter,

Christopher. RLP.
CROWFION - Nigel Thomas,
Major RA (Ret'G), pencefully
after e long lithese gallantly
borne, on Thursday 17th
October 197d. Beloved
husband of joyce, father of
Nicola, and grandfather to
Carla, Holly, jestica, Candila
and Alesandra. Frivate
funaral to be held in
Yorksthen, Memocial Service
to be amnounced. No floreux.
Donations to the Airborne
Forses Security Fund,
Erowning Earracka,
Aidenthot. WALSH - On October 14th, to Annabel (méa Grey) and James, e son, Jack.

WILSON - On October 14th 1996, to Sally (née Knowles) and Symon, a son, Joseph Samuel Well done Sally!

CALDWELL-WEISOR - Quietly on Weinseday 2nd October, in Richmond, of Jean-Paul, eon of Anna and George Caldwell and Jane, daughter of Setty and Hazry Winsor.

MARRIAGES

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SPARKS: HAVILAND - On October 19th 1946 at Holy Trinity, Sloane Street, London SW3, Pener Sparks to Gwendelon (Wendy)

Jubilate in F. pireanni, Lea my Interna-imuddi, Rev Dr I Fisher; 6:30 E. Stanford in G. O. clap your hands (Vaughan Williams), Rev Or A PERCESTER CATHEBRAL: 8 HC, 10 M; 10:30 Euch, Loardes, The Lord is my shepherd fam Jacobs, Camon B. Hebbiethwalle; 4 Choral E. Chants, Because the Lord is my Shepherd (walker, the Provins, LICHFIELD CATHEBRAL: 8 HC; 10:30 S Eoch,

BARME - On 15th October, 1996 suddenly at home to his 90th year, Lt. Col. Anthony Miles, ORE, DL, devoted bushand of Cara, father of Christopher and grandfather; to Charles

father of Christopher and grandfathor to Charles. Private funciol service for family only. Memorial sarvice to be held at the Church of St John the Euglist, Bere Regis, Dunset at 2 pm on Friday 22nd Novombor. Enquiries to Alhori Marsh (Funcial Directors) Ltd., St Michaels 20ad, Wareham, Dorsat 8H2O 4QU, tel: (01929) 552107.

552107.

BARON - On October 13th, peacefully Dote thy Baron, aged 88, widow of Barckay Baron OBE. Funeral on Wednesday 23rd October at 12 noon in the Frideaux House Chapel, 10 Church Crescent, London, E9 7DL. Tall: (0181) 986-6000. Flowers, or donations in Hea, to Prideaux House's work for and with the elderly.

and with the elderly.

BRD - Catherine Jean died
very peacefully on October
17th aged 84, beloved wife
for 59 years of Commander
David Bird RN. and much
loved mother of Judy, Pione,
Claire and James, her ten
grandchildren and five
gnest-gundchildren and five
gnest-gundchildren Puneral
Service et Harting Farish
Church et 2.30 pm on
Thursday October 24th.
Donations if desired to
logate & Harting Earnich
Arthritis & Rheumatism
Commil of LF. Linhort &
Son, Rorth Street, Midhurst,
Sussex GUZ9 9DG.

BURTON - Charles Alan on

Sussex GUZ9 90G.
BURTON - Charles Alan on 17th October, of Gwyans, Nigeria, Cameroons and Barbedos. Beloved husband of the late Marjorie, greatly loved father of jo, Barbara and Jim and special Gampy of twelve. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium 11.15 mm Friday 25th October. Enquiries to E. Seymour & Sons, (01727) 853091.
CARTER - Helan Mary

Sons, (01727) 853091.

CARTER - Helan Mary Elizabeth (Betty) nie Wallisjones of Carmarthem Died suddenly on 16th October, in Hazme, Zimbabwe, aged 80 years. Beloved mother of Leeley, Helen and Buth and grandinother of Michael, joreny, Eoty, Jessica and Cameron Sadly missed by all her family end frionds. Recuited with Ron end Christopher. RLP.

Browning Aldershot

Aidenshot.

GOLDSCISMEDT - Barthold, on 17th October, pascarully to his steep at home, aged 93, In accordance with his wishes the cremation will be private. Please no flowers or cards. A memotial consert will take place in 1997 to celebrare his life and his tousie.

tousie.

Hill. - Stanloy William of Arthur Colline & Co., Westminater and Blackheath, peacefully in hespital eyed B4 years, Daning husband of Peggy, father of Jodith and Susan, daarly loved by all his family, known at fill to his family and friends. Funeral (family only) has taken nace. Enquiries to (0171) 242-0422.

Line of the manner of the same of the same

HAMD - On October 12th 1996
in a London hospital,
Fatricia Mary Iland of
Brussela dearly loved sister,
sister-in-law and ann, and
fond filead of nearly in the
U.K., Brussels and France.
Fonoral at Ematrey
Cremetorium, Shewsburg,
at 2 par on Thursday October
24th. No Howens by request
but decentions if deared to
The British Hoart
Foundation of in Brussels to
La Fondation ponr la
Chirurgie Cardiogoe.
Enquiriee tol: (01743)
344646.

LANDAU - Marjorie Mary aged 93 years of St Johns Wood. Much loved wife of the late Johnny and former wife of the late Otto, mother of the the inte ten, mother or the late Pote, step-gandmother of Zoe, Jeramy and Toby, sister of Decethy and the late Charles and eart of Charles and Marth, Puneral Service et Golders Green Crematorium on Tuesday 22nd October at 3.15 pm.

Christopher Stephen, Priests
of the Church of England,
born 7th March 1917, died
11th October 1996. A
Memorial Service will be
held al St Bartholomew'e
Episcopal Church,
Baitinson, Maryistad, USA,
1pm Friday 1st November.

MARTIN - On Thursday October 17th, peacefully in a nursing home, Bersy Ward Dalymple Martin sped 95 years, late of West Claudon. Dear sister of the lata Margaret Lauder Martin O.B.E. Service at Guildford Crematorium on Thursday 24th October at 220 pm. Ro flowers but donations if desired to ENLE or Cancer Belief Macalillan Fund.

ROBOSON - On October 16th 1996, peacefully in ipswich Hospital, Betty, lete of Thorpeness, Suffolk. Wife of the late Murray Roboson. Dearly beloved mother of her sons Peter and Tony and grandhothar to all her grandholidren. Funeral Sarvice at lpawich Crematorium North Chapal on Thursday October 24th at 10.45 cm. No flowers, donations if destred made psyable to the Friends of Aldebung Hospital to Tony Browns F/S. Sexbundham, Soffolk 1917 104.

TODD - Mary (née Weston poscofully at home a Ottershaw, Surrey, after o have bettle against cancer Darling wife of lan, loving mother of Martin and storing member of Woking Aiblatic Clab. Funeral Service at Christ Church, Ottorshaw, Friday October 25th at 230 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to St Luke's Hospital Appeal, Guildford OPPING - On October 17th 1996, The Rev. Dom Christopher Topping aged B6 years, Moak of Amplefouth Abbey, Rook of Amplefouth Abbey 22 21st, Amplefouth Abbey et 12 ERAIDINE FIZZPATRICK If you were about 12 years old in 1953 and Ilvad at 25 Beautingtor Gardens, Hond, Feetz, Means contact me J

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SMYTH - j.C. Pracer Smyth, BA, LLB, Dip. Soc. Sci. died peacefully on October 15th 1996 et Risom Rouse, Tethury. Two shideth faith, hope, love; but the greatest of these is love." (I Corinthians xiii.13). Cramation Wastarleigh Crematorium 3 pm Saturday 26th October 1996. No Rowers please, but, if you wish, a donation to The Car's Protection League, 17, fing's Road, Horsham, W. Susser, RH13 5PR.

SPHOTT - Charles Mackinton of Harcourt Tarrace, Salisbury, aged 70, beloved and loving husband of Pat, cherished father of Adam and Fhilippa and inspiring grandfather of Daniella, kobert and Louise. Feneral Service at Salisbury Cramatorium on Thersday 24th October at Salisbury flowers only but donations if desired to The Stroke Association c/o D.K. Association c/o D.K. Shargold, 159-161 Fisherton

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THEATRES

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 5 HC 10:30 Parish Euch, Shori Service Ilanieni, God which hast prepared (Mudd), Rev J Ovenden: 5 Tatz's Service. ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner SI, SW3; 11 HC [1662], Laudare Dominum (Mozari), Come ye with adoration (Kodaly), Prof R Poner; 6-30 E. adoration (Koday), Prof R Poner, 0-30 S ST STEPRIEM'S. Gloucester Road, 507: 9 LM; II HM, Missa Brevis In B Ilai K257 (Mozari, O Salutaris (Elgart, Fr O Oliver; CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London; 9 13 HC, Preb C Thomsore II M & Sermon, Staplord In A. Ave Maria (Bruckner), Preb C Thomson.

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OBITUARIES

Jack Robertson, Test and county cricketer, died at Bury St Edmunds on October 12 aged 79. He was born in Loudon on February 22, 1917.

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JACK ROBERTSON was as near and stylish a batsman as he was gentle and unassuming as a person. Unfortunately for him. in his best years, just after the Second World War, England had a settled opening pair in Len Hunon and Cyril Washbrook, But for that, Roberison would surely have won more than the 11 Test caps that he did, of which only two were in England.

in almost any other county side than the Middlesex of Denis Compton and Bill Edrich, he would have been the champion bassman. While was making a mpton was making a record 3,816 runs in the 1947 season and Edrich 3,539. Robertson's aggregate was a srill imposing 2,760. And in S. M. Brown he had a determined and effective county opening parmer. Between them these four Middlesex players scored an astonishing 12,193 runs in 1947, including 46 hundreds, at a collective average of 63.

Only recently rid of war, and in a marvellously surmy summer, the people of England poured to see them, especially to Lord's, to watch them oo the way to winning the county championship. On Whit Monday, for example, for the then traditional match between Middlesex and Sussex, the gates were closed on a crowd of 30,000. Three years earlier, Lieutenant Robertson of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment had been batting for the Army against the Royal Airprorce at Lord's when the goalnd was threatened by a flying bomb, approaching from the south and likely, it seemed, to fall on or near the Nursery. In the event it dropped and exploded in Regent's Park, with the players at Lord's still lying flat on the ground, heads down.

John David Benbow Robertson went to school at Arlington Park College, Turnham Green, and, with his father a stalwart of the Turnham Green club, he was never. Patsy Hendren are so much a

JACK ROBERTSON



Robertson cutting a ball from Cave of New Zealand on his way to 121 during a Test match at Lord's in 1949

short of parental encouragement to play cricket. His progress was steady rather than spectacular. He played for the Middlesex 2nd XI when he was 15, got his first chance in the championship side when he was 21 and won his county cap when he was 22, the year in which the war

His opening partner for Middlesex was already Sid Brown, with whom he was to share, altogether, 34 threefigure opening stands. In successive matches in June 1947, both at Lord's, they put on 310 for the first wicket against Nottinghamshire and 222 against Yorkshire, and for match after match they prepared the way for Compton and Edrich.

Robertson's style at the wicket was often compared to J. W. (young Jack) Hearne's. whose great partnerships with

part of Middlesex's cricket history. Like Hearne, Robertson made an ideal model for young batsmen, orthodox yet attractive and with all the strokes. Denis Compton always liked to be on the balcony, watching, when Jack was batting, and there could be no higher compliment than that, especially as it would have meant his tearing himself away from the shovehalfpenny board in the

Many of Robertson's contemporaries considered him to be at least as good a player as Washbrook, However, on his two appearances against the 1948 Australians, for the MCC and Middlesex, he was given a hard time by those two great fast bowlers, Ray Lindwall and Keith Miller, and this resulted in his being labelled as more vulnerable against speed than he really was. He regularly took runs off York-

Middlesex dressing room.

shire, the more eagerly when Fred Trueman was playing for them. Indeed, at his best all howlers came alike to him. and there was no county against which he failed to score a century.

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eleven innings in late July and early August: he scored 331 not out in a day against Worcestershire in 1949, and by nearly 600 runs he was the top scorer in the country in 1951, when he got 2.917 runs at an average of 56. He did it all with modesty and the minimum of effort. and as a confirmed teetotaller. His concise approach was reflected in the short, quick strides with which he walked, R. W. V. Robins, his Middlesex captain in 1947, considered him - despite Robertson in those days ranking as "a Player" — to be the definition of a gentleman.

In the second and last of his

home Test matches, against New Zealand at Lord's in 1949, when Washbrook was unfit, Robertson opened with Hutton and scored 26 and 121. But he still had to make way for Washbrook in the next He made no fewer than 12 of Test. On his two MCC tours. these in 1947, six of them in to the Caribbean in 1947-48 and India in 1951-52, Robert-

son's best Test score was 133

against West Indies at Port of

Spain; in the last of his eleven

Tests he scored 77 and 56

against India in Madras. He was a ridy, occasional off-spinner, a reliable, albeit one-paced, fielder, and for ten years after his retirement an amiable coach of Middlesex. In this last capacity he was wonderfully good with the young, less so with anyone touched with cynicism. All told, Robertson scored 31,914 runs at an average of 37.50 and hit 67 centuries. His wife Joyce, survives

him, as does his son, lan.

IVAN WALLER

Ivan Waller. mountaineer, aviator, racing motorist and engineer, died on October 2 aged 89. He vas born on December 27, 1906.

A STRONG spirit of adventure ran through Ivan Waller's long and active life. On the motor racing track he proved himself a courageous competitor. As a mountaineer he ranked in his day among the boldest in Britain. His passinn for the hills and cliff faces of Cumbria, Snowdonia and the Scortsh Highlands never diminished.

His technical skill and unflustered style were admired and his sense of fun. though it irritated the more solenin members of the climb ing fraternity, was greatly enjoyed by others. In 1927 his lead of Belle Vue Bastion, a bulging stretch of rock on the Terrace Wall of Tryfan, was a oreakthrough made more remarkable by his solo ascent of the route two days later to musical accompaniment from a gramophone - playing Rag-time - pre-placed on the ledge above. He ended the day with a handstand on the Adam and Eve rocks on Tryfan's summit. As a schoolboy at Lancing.

Ivan Mark Waller showed scarcely a flicker of interest in conventional sports. Rather it was his skill as an engineer which was to reveal itself when, in the school's workshop, he produced a working example of a 22 pistol. This was briefly admired and then confiscated by the Shoreham magistrates.

At Trinity College, Cambridge, he studied engineering sciences and, after graduation, joined Rolls-Royce in Derby. It was then that his enthusiasm for motor racing and mountaineering began to develop, He proved himself a fearless compenitor at Brooklands and in his racing Alvis he won the Irish Motor Club's premier event in 1932 at Phoenix Park. He manifested a similarly dauntiess spirit as a rock climber and was to partner many of the more famous "tigers" of the day, among them Colin Kirkus, Menlove Edwards. Maurice Linnell and Jack Longland.



When the Second World War broke out. Waller was frustrated at being in a reserved occupation. He transferred to the aeronautical division of Rolls-Royce, qualified as a pilot, and became une of the company's flight test in the wimer of 1941 Waller

was testing an experimental seaplane, the Blackburn B20. powered by Rolls-Royce Vulture engines. Taking off from base on the Clyde, an envelope containing secret signals identifying the B20 as an allied aircraft was dropped irretrievably into a maze of pipes and wires in the aircraft's belly. This made it vulnerable to friendly antiaircraft fire, a risk soon forgotten when, during a high speed test run, the aircraft started to break up.
As Waller stood ready to

bale out, his parachute opened prematurely and became entangled in an aerial wire. He freed it, only to find that the canopy was wrapping itself around the aircraft's tail. Rock climbing skills came to his aid as he hauled himself out onto the fuselage and hand-traversed along the aerial wire to the tail. But the slipstream of the plunging aircraft was too great and he and the badly torn parachute were plucked free. He hit the sea with some force but survived, unlike the pilot and five crew After the war Waller re-

ioined the car division of Rolls-

Royce and became senior test and development engineer. His work led to a paper on internally expanding shoe brakes which won the Stephenson Award of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. density of the control of the contro

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Waller's interest in motor racing and rock climbing remained as strong as ever and he would occasionally appear in North Wales in a Rolls-Royce limousine under test. At the age of 46 he drove a Jaguar XK 120 at Le Mans, the first privately entered car to finish behind the winning works teams. Waller took the wheel for 18 of the 24 hours and during the tright, on a wet track, was putting in the fastest lap rimes.

He retired to live in the Lake District and devoted himself to long distance walking and skiing. He walked the Pennine Way in both directions. climbed all the mountains over 3,000ft in Scotland, Ireland and Wales. At the age of 70 he made two traverses of the gruelling Cuillin Ridge on Skye. The first traverse was to make sure of the route for the second, three weeks later, which he made in the company of a 71-year-old friend. He rounded off a remarkable climbing career at the age of 79 when he repeated his famous Belle Vue Bassion ascent with top rope but without gramophone accompani-

Waller leaves his widow, Helen, and two sons.

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HELMUT HEISSENBÜTTEL

Helmut Heissenbüttel. September 19 aged 75. He was born on June 21, 1921.

FOR almost 40 years Helmut Heissenbüttel espoused an ex-treme literary modernism that by the end of his career had come to seem rather oldfashioned. Literature, he believed, could have only one real subject, and that was language itself. In a large body of work which resisted classification into any of the familiar genres - he himself preferred to talk of "texts" and projects", rather than "poetry" or "theory" or "prose" -Heissenbüttel attempted to penetrate language and lay bare its hidden workings, testing to the limit our ability to grasp the world through

Not surprisingly, perhaps. he was never a popular writer. But he was esteemed by critics and fellow writers in Germany and elsewhere, and for a time in the 1960s and 1970s the experimental tendencies he embodied seemed an important part of literary life. His works were translated into English and other languages (though they were no easier to translate than to classify), and he was honoured with some of the Germanspeaking world's most coveted

literary awards.

The son of a bailiff, Helmut Heissenbüttel was born in Rüstringen near Wilhelmshaven. In the course of military service during the Second World War he was severely wounded, losing his left arm in 1941, after which he took no

further part in the fighting. From 1942 to 1955 he studied at the universines of Dresden, Leipzig and Hamburg, reading first architecture, then German literature and art history. On finishing his studies, he spent two years workadvertising in Hamburg, before moving to Stuttgart to join the staff of South West German Radio. where in 1959 he succeeded the novelist Alfred Andersch as head of the "Radio-Essay" department, and where he remained until his retirement

Heissenbünel began to write at the age of 15, but his

in 1981.

first published works date from the early 1950s. Collected in two volumes - Kombinationen (1954) and Topographien (1956) - these early pieces present a view of the world that is fragmented, contradictory and incomplete, but still unmistakably lyrical in inspiration and intent; this is writing that helongs to a

From the 1960s onwards, however, in works such as those collected into a series of numbered Textbücher, Heissenbüttel moved much further away from what he saw as the arbitrary hierarchies of conventional grammar and syn-

recognisable poetic tradition.

tax, and relied instead on techniques such as collage quotation and juxtaposition. These methods were developed and elaborated to a daunting degree in the complex multiple perspectives of D'Alembert's Ende (1970), an extended fiction that was the nearest Heissenbüttel came to writing a novel.
But Heissenbüttel's ap-

proach to language was al-ways less purely playful than that of some of his contemporaries and associates, such as the Austrians Ernst Jandl and Friederike Mayrocker. Whal fascinated him about words was their role in human society, so that his linguistic games and experiments, far from becoming an end in themselves, are often turned to sharply saffrical purpose. Heissenbüttel was fortunate

to be able to spend his working life in a job that provided a focus and forum for his literary and artistic interests: as editor in charge of the influential "Radio-Essay" programme strand at South West German Radio, he commissioned and collaborated on talks, readings and performances by many of the most significant avant-garde figures of the day. He was also a perceptive and original critic, not only of literature but of the visual arts. The range of his contacts, and the depth of their affection for him, was evident in the volume of tributes presented to him on his sevenfieth birthday in 1991.

Helmut Heissenbüttel is survived by his wife Ida. whom he married in 1954, and by a son and three daughters.

THE CLOSING OF WEMBLEY. LIQUIDATION PLANS.

The following statement was issued officially at the British Empire Exhibition on Saturday: In view of the fact that there is no intention to continue the British Empire Exhibition next year, it has been decided to take the usual and obvious course in the case of temporary associations of placing the Exhibition in the charge of liquidators as early as possible after its close on October 31, for the purpose of realizing the assets and discharging the liabilides of the Exhibition. It has accordingly been arranged to hold extraordinary general meetings of the British Empire Exhibition Association on Monday, October 26, and on Tuesday. November 10, 10 appoint liquidators. An official stated that the appointment of liquidators was merely a formal proceeding demanded by company law. The British Entpire Exhibition must obviously sooner or later be wound up. Formal authority was necessary for the appointment of those who were to be entrusted with that giganoc task. Some weeks ago a Realization Committee, consisting of Mr. J. H. Thomas Ichairman). Sir

James Cooper (the Financial Controller of the Exhibition), and Sir Arthur Whinney, with

ON THIS DAY

October 19, 1925 **经过帐** 3 被

The close of the highly-successful British Empire Exhibition of 1924-25 — there was a total "gate" of 1,500,000 - was to be followed by the sloging of mony famous sporting events at Wembley over the years

Mr. H.A. Beckenham (the present secretary of the Exhibition), as secretary, was appointed to go into the future of Wembley and, if called upon, to act as liquidators. While they were given by the Executive Council very wide powers, they were not actually appointed as final liquidators, but it is understood that it is not improbable that they will be asked by the Executive Council to undertake

that responsibility. The Government Comminee met on Saturday at the Department of Overseas Trade and came to a decision in run the Tattoo for three performances, after Saturday, October 24. The days selected are Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, October 28, 29, and 31. At the end of the month the Tattoo will have reached its tenth week, and both men and horses need a rest after the continuous strain of over three months' rehearsals and performances. The extra five weeks' running Tanco has involved the postponement of the men's furlough.

The three days selected are chosen because they are half-holidays and afford the chance of easy and comfortable aftendance to the greatest number. The special trains from districts outside London will be arranged accordingly. The total number of visitors to date is 1.630,000, and by Wednesday it should exceed a million and three-quarters. The Tattoo numbers have already produced £130,000 at the Exhibition turnstiles, and the Stadium receipts approach £170,000 net.

The ceremony which will bring the Exhibition to an end on October 31 will be performed by the Duke and Duchess of York and will begin at 3 p.m. The programme will include the last performance of the Tatton. which will start at 7 o'clock instead of 8. This will be followed by a musical programme by the massed bands of the Brigade of Guards. and a big fireworks display. The bands will play patriotic and popular airs, winding up with "Auld Lang Syne".

SECTIONS

Bands of gold: the less

than glamorous life of

rock chicks Page 10

Jimmy riddle: what drives

Goldsmith? Page 19

Weekend

Paradise lost: An island of

bad dreams Pages 1.7

Property: Dealing with

Travel: Spain, Canada

Switzerland Pages 15-23

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Meet: Steve Coogan's new

cuddly character.... Page 6

Win: a pair of Converse All

Star 2000

subsidence Pages (_)

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Head's wife urges moral crusade

NEWS

The widow of the murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence called for a public debate to consider how to rid society of violence and establish new moral codes, especially among young people. Frances Lawrence said that by launching her campaign she was carrying out her husband's wishes Pages i, 3

Court battle to cut drug costs

Popular over-the-counter medicines could become cheaper if the Office of Fair Trading succeeds in an attempt to outlaw pricefixing by drug companies. The Director-General is applying to a court to recommend the abolition of a 26-year-old agreement which sets a minimum price for 2.273 brands of vitamins, syrups, tablets, lozenges and ointments

Stalking clampdown

Stalkers will face jail terms of up

to five years under proposals

which would make them liable to

prosecution after harassing their

The UN is trying to broker a peace

accord in Afghanistan between the

ruler of six northern provinces and

Britain would lose its power to

veto a future European defence

force under a scheme for a flexible

European Union, launched by

France and Germany Page 17

Bob Dole, the Republican presi-

dential candidate, will gamble his

dwindling campaign resources on

the battle for California. But as his

hopes of catching President Clin-

ton fade, attention is moving to the

other contest on November 5: the

fight for Congress Pages 18, 19

Dole goes for broke

... Page 16

victims just twice....

UN peace effort

EU veto threat

Catholic manifesto

The Roman Catholic Church is about to plunge into the political minefield with a 13,000-word document on the principles of its social teaching.

Yeltsin purge

Boris Yeltsin removed Russia's highest-ranking military officer from his post....... Pages 1, 14. 15 Widow wins support

Diane Blood, the widow who is seeking the right to bear her late husband's baby, said she had been overwhelmed by messages of sup-

Don's admission

The principal of a Durham University college admined that he did not hold three of the degrees listedPage 4 under his name...

Driver fights for life

A motorist who was hit by a concrete block hurled from a motorway bridge was fighting for his

Railways go to war with water cannon

A secret weapon against the railways' most celebrated excuse for delays is being tested by Rai(track. A small locomotive has been fitted with a water cannon so powerful that it can cut through wood. Engineers hope that it will end the annual embarrassment of delays caused by leaves on the line... Page 9



THE TIMES TODAY

French Goldsmith Delicious (Major's endum referendum) This import has gained prominence by aggressive, expensive marketing. Leaves a sour taste in many MP's mouths.

OPINION

It's bad to stalk A well-drafted law against stalking could make successful prosecution easier: a badly drafted one could have serious unintended consequencesPage 23 Questions and answers: The US presidential debates should give ammunition for those who would like to see British party leaders meet in a similar format Page 23

LETTERS

Relevance of old school tie; gun control; Thought for the Day: right to privacy; modern hymns...

COLUMNS

gravity

Simon Jenkins: Incidents such as Dunblane and Hungerford are so rare and so awful as to form a poor basis for legislation Page 22 Angela Goodden: At least some modern republicans might be quietened if the Crown's still considerable wealth were channelled into artistic patronage Page 22

OBITUARIES

Jack Robertson, Test cricketer: Helmut Hessenbüttel, writer, Ivan Waller, mountaineer, racing motorist and Page 23 Page 25

BUSINESS

borrowing ...

sions market ... dex rose 11.0 points to close at

Bid battle: The fight for Tennis: Tim Henman made Lloyds Chemists resumed it through to the senti-finals after the DTI cleared Uniof the Czech indoor tourna-Chem and Gehe to make ment with an outstanding win over the world No 7, Wayne FerreiraPage 52 Losing steam: Lending figures from banks and build-Golf: Ernie Els, the defending ing societies showed champion, recovered from six weakening in the amount of down to beat Steve Stricker in

... Page 27 the Toyota World Match Play Championship Page 52 Getting personal: Virgin is to move into the personal pen-Football: Last-ditch negotia-..... Page 27 tions are to be held between Markets: The FT-SE 100 inthe Football League and the

Professional Footballers' As-4053.1. Sterling's tradesociation to try to prevent weighted index rose from a walkout by Nationwide _ Page 30 League players ____ Page 52

SPORT

for Sadler's Wells's debut at

stand-in home..... Page 21 CAR 06

ARTS

Virtually priceless: "Mrs Bottomley's vision of an art collection (in hologram form) in every living room by the millennium might just swing a tight election." Richard Morrison

Ever mellow: Donovan

Motor show edition: All the best from Birmingham

back on stage Page 21 Tango time: Dodgy choice

directory



part of series Pages 34 _Pages : Seven-day TV and radio . Pages 23-50

Sunny intervals

Cloudy-

Drizzie

Overcast

Sleet and

Lightning

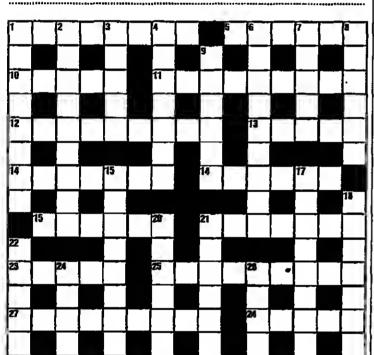
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Wind speriments (mph) & direction

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,303

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single molt whisky, the only molt whisky to have twice won the presticious Gold Madel whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will

be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday, Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Bax 486, Virginia Street, London El 9DD. The winners and solution will



ACROSS

- 1 Impresario favouring crude ma-terial (8). 5 Outside church espy distraught maidenly soul (6).
- 10 Cut grass (5). 11 Encounter and manage this sort of clue (3,6).
- 12 Command members to put rifles down (5,4). 13 Apart from its source, river is dark
- brown (5). 14 Witticism given point by characters in Animal Form? (7).
- 16 Teetotal, without musical sensitivity, and dull (6).
- 19 Less straightforward manoeuvre (6). 21 Helter-skelter at a fair takes the biscuit (7).
- 23 Smell round river that's endless 25 Calf, perhaps, in a state (3.6).
- 27 Customs turned back art volume out east (9). 28 Company board (5). 29 Mark time in senility (6). 30 Sergeant given new order to drive
- Solutioo to Puzzle No 20,297 CREAM

26 No cooker for a consumer (5). Solution to Puzzle No 20,302

1 Shove across a piece of cake (8). 2 Bribed QC - it could make a

3 Not qualified to pronounce (5).

6 Plant stimulating interest (9). 7 Firm with order book in the valley

4 A murder sorted out in part of

8 Guarantee runs in follow-on, say

fashionable gallery's opening (9).

20 Headed crime squad in rank (6).

in Red Square originally (7).

22 Sacked John and Edward (6).

watertight case (5.4).

hearing (7).

9 New Left? (6).

unwanted (6.3).

tricky end-game (8).

of painting (2,3).

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HOURS OF DANKNESS

Sun sets: 5,59 pm Moon sets 11.45 pm 2.14 pm First quarter today London S 59 pm to 7.34 am Bristol 6.08 pm to 7.43 am Edinburgh 8.02 pm to 7.55 am Manchester 8.03 pm to 7.45 am Penzamoe 6.22 pm to 7.53 am

TOMORROW London S.56 pm to 7.35 am Bristol 8.06 pm to 7.45 am Edinburgh S.59 pm to 7.57 am Manchester 6.01 pm to 7.48 am Penzymon 8.20 pm to 7.54 am

5.55 pm

15 Profitable artist turned up before 17 Reject born in a place for the 18 Cup-holder trapping unknown in 21 Turns film back to show triumph 24 Circle and lines in geometric style

HIGHEST & LOWEST

FORECAST

89.0 to 89.3 ..

General: bright morning in England and Wales, showers in Kent cleaning. Cloud and later rain will gradually spread east, with dull, misty weather on south and west coasts and hills.

Shetland and Orkney will have showers. Elsewhere in Scotland bright with sunny periods, until rain spreads into the south and west later. Northern Ireland will quickly cloud over after a bright start. Rain by mid-morning will be lollowed by cloudy

weather with paichy drizzle. London, SE, NE and E England, E Anglia, Borders: bnght, sunny periods. Cloudier in afternoon, rain ater. Wind moderate, west or southwest. Mild, max 16C (61F).

Central S England, E and W Midlands, Channel Isles, NW England, Lake District, Central N, SW

sunshine becoming hazy, rain in

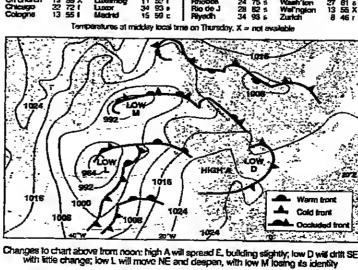
☐ Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland: a few or southwest. Mild, max 13C (55F). Orkney, Shetland: sunny or clear intervals and showers. Winds fresh, southerly. Mild, max 11C (52F).

AROUND BRITAIN

0.04 0.25 0.14 0.25 0.30 0.06 0.24 0.35 0.13 0.75

61 63 59 61 0.28 0.20

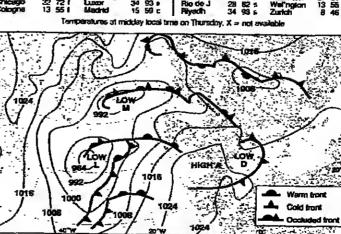
ABROAD



USW England, S and N Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: bright early. Cloud thickening, rain noon. Wind fresh or strong, south-west. Max 14C (57F)

Outlook tomorrow overcast with

rain or drizzle. Monday mainly bright



afternoon. Wind moderate or tresh, west or southwes! Mild. max 15C

from west by midday or early after-

morning showers, otherwise dry with bright or surny periods, rain in evening. Winds fresh or strong, south

Sunny Rain Sunny sunny MODERNIE Sea conditions

Fly by 757 for a day in Lapland for just £299 Depart from Gatwick, Manchester, Bristol, or Stansted on 7,8,14,15,20,23 or 25 Dec.

Meet Father Christmas, cross the Arctic Circle, caperience a ride on a reindeer sleigh and a snowmobile. The inclusive price is £299 with the luncheon and thermal clothing.



QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express to Southampton on 13 Nov. ● four night QE2 cruise to Tenerife via Madeira ● island tour Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,599

Concorde supersonic to Tenerife on 17 Nov.

• island tour • four night QE2 cruise to Southampton via Agadir • Orient-Express to Victoria £1,499 **NEW YORK ON ANY DAY**

the Hilton • Concorde supersonic return £1,999 or £3,999 flying both ways on Concorde BA 747 to New York on 29 Dec. • four nights at Sheraton • New Year's Eve dinner cruise • theatre

BA 747 to New York on any day • three nights at

• helicopter & coach tour • Concorde return £2,499 ORIANA CHRISTMAS CRUISE

Twenty night Christmas & New Year Oriana cruise on 15 Dec. from Southampton to Vigo via Madeira Antigua, Barbados, St. Vincent and Martinique ● tour Santiago de Compostela ● Concorde supersonic return £3,999

Concorde supersonic to Santiago on 4 Jan. • two night Oriana cruise from Vigo to Southampton £999 For our full colour brochure, please telephone



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WEATHER.

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